

FIGHT THE WHITE

by Anthony Rayson

*Presentation for the Confronting Whiteness Conference
Held at the University of Chicago, November 6 - 8, 1998
OCTOBER 31, 1998*

WHITE SOCIETY

(Cultureless & Soulless)

1. Historical Indoctrination

- A. A baby boomer's review of "white" society
- B. Racism "Subtle-ized"

2. Formal "white" education

- A. All-white public schools
- B. White neighborhoods, towns, states, country
- C. All other reinforcers (tv, movies, papers, books)

3. Effects of Whiteness

- A. Alienation
- B. Ignorance
- C. Consumption

4. Rejection of Brainwash

- A. Teenagers & Parents
- B. Counterculture
- C. Race mixing

5. Abolishish whiteness

- A. Agitprop pointers
- B. Hope for a tomorrow



South Chicago Ara Alert #1

(p.o. box 721, homewood, il 60430. 58 pages. halfsize. \$2.)

this is one of the best ara zines i've seen in a while now. it has a listing of great local resources to help people (in the chicago area) get involved in the ara. this is a thick zine, too. the content is well worth reading through. there's article from newspapers, magazines, etc. just about everything about ara in chicago is in here. it's a great source for people who wanna get involved in ara and for people who just want to learn more about what ara is.

General List of Topics

1. Vain Introduction With Warning
2. Outline of My Revolting Premise
3. Tinley Park and Vietnam
4. Checking the Email
5. White Privilege Lists
6. Hollow Daze
7. Can I See the Paper?
8. Anything but "Poetry!"
9. Did I Get Any Letters Today?
10. New Man & Strong Women*

*All caricatures
drawn by my son*



*Stanton Rayson
aged ten**

My name is Anthony Rayson. I have a wife, two children, a house, a car and a job. I'm 45 years old but I still feel repulsed by reality, just as I did when I was fifteen. I've taught myself how to articulate my thoughts in written form. Because I have not sold out, like virtually everybody else anywhere near my age, what I have to say will probably appall and anger you. That's good. In a profane world of oblivious mass murdering, only carefully crafted, mind-shocking lucidity can begin to give the subject a proper respect. I attempt to do this very difficult work.

So, I want to warn you that if you are not ready (or for some reason unwilling) to be assaulted by the disgusting truth, find a patty cake presentation or a stuffy, academic one. My "reputation" is based solely on self-respect. But, I won't scream at you amidst grind core noise or even swear much, although I do greatly respect and appreciate the work of fervent and volatile anarcho-punks. Like I said, I'm 45 years old. I'm a writer, activist and organizer, not an entertainer or professional anything. But I am an amateur free-thinking anarchist propagandist, who detests racism. I'm not interested in the separation of church and state, but rather, strive to abolish both!

You all have a copy of an outline I put together that allowed me to be selected. I did not have the time to flesh this out into a proper paper, but I do

"HOPE ALSO LIVES IN OUR HEART"



have a wealth of material that covers these topics (and others.)

I am very pleased to present other Chicagoland area activists with me today, who will also speak and answer questions. Then, we can have a round table discussion, to explore issues further.

WHITE SOCIETY: CULTURELESS & SOULLESS

My premise is that "white" society is cultureless and soulless. James Baldwin once said that "If you consider yourself white, there is no hope for you." In fact, "white people" do not exist!

There is only one species of humanity and we have a very shallow gene pool, compared to other species. All human beings are remarkably genetically similar - almost identical.

This whole business of racial categorizing was developed to justify slavery, genocide, imperialism and racism. Racism is a capitalist phenomenon and is a very effective means used to divide and weaken their natural enemies - the working class. Along with Christian fundamentalist pervasiveness with their teachings of sexism, homophobia and submission to a nebulous "God," the United States, through naked aggression, has been able to become the dominating force in this hemisphere.

Opportunistically picking up the pieces from the two European-spawned imperialist wars this century,



Hitler-worshippers, like the American Nazi Party, use the swastika. It is also used by nearly all white supremacist organizations throughout the world.



This symbol of the Third Reich in Germany is also used by Hitler-lovers throughout the world.



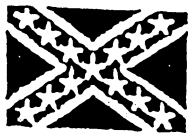
coupled with the implosion of so-called "communism," has also given the U.S. rulers free reign, throughout the entire world.

To keep this thoroughly evil system functioning, an elaborate system of lie-based propaganda has been seamlessly perpetuated throughout all of the mainstream institutions and been thoroughly incorporated into everyday "white" life.

So called "white people," being in the majority, (after the indigenous Americans were virtually completely exterminated,) were catered to and kept in check by the meatless bone of white privilege. People of African descent were always in the minority in this country, uniquely demonized and indeed, subject to physical and sexual slavery for centuries.

We've established an elaborate system of "law" that has institutionalized this genocidal, racist form of capitalism, which is now being used to cattle-car black youth into the burgeoning prison-industrial complex, as it super-exploits the world's poor and has seen fit to make a particular example of Iraq, by the mass-murdering denial of mere subsistence to their horribly suffering children. "White" Americans continue to remain oblivious to human suffering or to genuine political reality. They are soulless.

These three laws are good to keep in mind, because they don't hide their intent, which is the usual case with most mainstream rationale. The first is the constitution itself. It gave the stamp of approval



The confederate flag, used by Klan and nazi formations to represent slavery days.



This is the logo of the Heritage Front. Vaguely reminiscent of the swastika, this white, red and black symbol appears on t-shirts, patches, buttons and baseball hats of members and supporters of the HF.

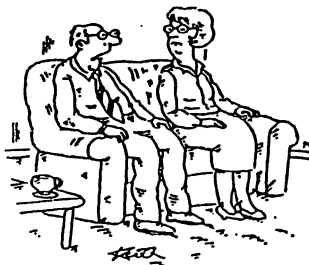
to slavery, private property and the exclusion of women. The slave trade was greatly accelerated, and the go-ahead was given to the adventurers and settlers to expropriate the land of this vast continent and kill (with impunity,) any and all Indians. Women were subject to a sort of house slavery. The constitution allowed for Christian fundamentalism to enjoy great latitude to force sexual and social conformity to a patriarchal, women-hating, child-beating, homophobic, slavery-justifying white, male "God."

The second law I would cite would be the Dred Scot decision. This reaffirmed the notion that slaves were not citizens of this country and by implication sub-human, again "justifying" their horrific oppression.

The third law that has guided this nation would be the Plessy v. Ferguson decision. This 1896 ruling laid the groundwork for the "separate but equal" sham we see accelerating these days. This ruling was used by the Afrikaners to justify enactment of the apartheid laws and indeed, even the Nazis took their cue for the Nuremberg Laws of mid-30's Germany, from this ruling. If the U.S. says it's O.K. Hey!

Because of life-long blinding, "white" Americans do not realize what a dreadful reality the United States has visited upon the people of this world. Countries across the world suffer from brutal regimes, regulated and often controlled by the U.S. We are unaware that global citizens even exist or how they

"I'd Be
63 today



had I
LIVED!"

live and think. We are cocooned into a pointless and vapid consumer society where the whole meaning for our lives is accumulation of status objects. We are cultureless.

I will read all or parts of a few pertinent essays I've written. I have two interesting lists on white privilege, poems, letters, quotes, etc. Then I'll shut up for a while and let the other, local activists have a chance to speak.

First I want to take you down memory lane and describe what it was like to grow up in the southern suburbs of Chicago, known for their white flight racism and general, all-around, intellectual destitution. I was born in 1953 and grew up in Tinley Park until my late teens.

The Disease of Childhood



Tinley Park: Racism, Ignorance, Lovelessness and "Madness"

Tinley used to be a small, old town, populated by the progeny of mostly German immigrants. Aside from the local bourgeoisie, the houses were modest dwellings. The yards were glorified postage stamps. These places were lived in to death by the explosion of children in the late forties, fifties and early sixties. Baby BOOM! Indeed.

I arrived in this suffocating, yet surreal environment, in the middle of this birthing phenomenon, 1953. Politically, most of the adults were reflective reactionaries, absorbing societal lessons with superficial obsequiousness. A small percentage of the townspeople were "liberal." Rounding out the picture were the usual, minute, number of natural outsiders - the crackpots, nutcases, criminals, thrill seekers, deviants, losers, and mad men.

With a dim bulb of comprehension, the translation of societal "values" (schizophrenic to begin with) lost all ties to sanity, when these parents attempted to force feed this drivvel into their numerous children. The results were children, given minimal nurturing and attention, basically on their own, with the basest racist and sexist mindlessness to fortify them for the future.

But it wasn't just a racist, sexist "education." Ignorance of any useful information of enlightening ideas was passed on, either through gross misinformation or the fearful withholding of facts. The "facts of life" were avoided like the plague for fear the children would be uncontrollably promiscuous. The wedge forced between the sexes bred fear, frustration, alienation and self-loathing, among those uneasy with the structure of reality. Who couldn't be uneasy? What was the point of having the sexes psychologically separated and any deviation from the W.A.S.P. ideal pitilessly ridiculed?

Racism was a constant. The town was lilywhite, so the objects of such venom were rarely visited, towns away. Blacks were considered like dangerous lepers, to be avoided and hated. Not a few lads were fixated on Hitler and the swastika, short-circuiting their brains with intellectually crippling anti-ideas.

I was six when the sixties began, nine when we were almost vaporized into radioactive dust (Cuban Missile Ego Crisis) and ten when Kennedy's chickens came home to roost. When the Chicago Blue Shirts went on their savage, nightly rampage, during the convention, I was almost fifteen. Your basic idyllic childhood.

Anybody with glasses, left-handed, curly hair, braces, birth marks, scars, the "wrong" colored eyes, a funny name, small, large, skinny, fat or "bronzed" at all, was subject to unremitting ridicule. In short, every one was subject to belittling cruelty because, after all, we all were unique individuals. For shame! This poisoned atmosphere was presided over by oblivious parents, microscopically minded administrators and woefully underpaid teachers, saddled with

often untrue curricula. Many of the adults were sticklers for moronic rules yet unaware of the town-wide psychological holocaust in the making. It was the boiled down essence of white "culture."

What did children do with their time? Very few tried to make comprehensive sense of their surroundings or read much, except comic books. We did watch tons of television and group together often, to play. Tinley was still a backwater town, hardly connected to Chicago. The Rock Island line stopped in town, so you could commute downtown, or go the other way to Joliet. The small town atmosphere was intact and farms buffeted it from surrounding communities. Our sister town was Oak "Stroke" Forest. We didn't see much of these people until high school. They were similarly spiritually separated from themselves. We played outside a lot, rode our bikes, played baseball and tortured animals.

Spiders and snakes, lizards, insects, birds, crayfish, squirrels, you name it, we'd capture and make suffer. We'd stick firecrackers in frogs. One friend of mine built a torture chamber/guillotine for cats. I remember one time some of us ditched high school, went to the zoo and got thrown out. Some of the guys couldn't resist throwing rocks at the monkeys. We saved our meanest treatment for eachother, concentrating our blind hatred inward.

This evil behavior was vented fully when the flood of depressant drugs (barbituates, alcohol and heroin) became commonplace. Weapons (vehicles and guns) added their terrorizing immediacy. "Mind expanding," psycho-active drugs, such as marijuana and LSD, were the drugs most hysterically lied about by the adults, but it was the "downers," that were the real scourge of the young.

The Civil Rights movement of the early sixties, served as justification for brainless racism. "See! We shouldn't have gotten rid of slavery." The racist slaughter in Vietnam gave the townfoks a chance to demonstrate their "patriotism." Dead-end late teens actually enlisted. Some parents really were the first ones on their block to have their boy come home in a box! The rich got out of it with "deferments," just like during the Civil War.

We hated those commie Cooks and Vietcong and loved to see piles of charred corpses of them on T.V. "You Don't FUCK With The U.S. of A!" The fact we went there to commit mass murder didn't matter. The dumbest version of whatever was told us, we believed. Hell, even Congress swallowed the Tonkin lie whole, too! So what do you expect from small town simpletons? The political cartoons had Chinese "communists" with insanely leering looks, drooling, clutching huge bloody sabres behind their backs. After all, they were behind this whole Vietnam thing, you know!

Quickly, those sent "overseas" realized they'd been set up in a monstrous scam. Their lives were in grave danger, physically and psychologically. They



took drugs and sent some home. Pot made its debut among the "heads" and "freaks." Some of the greasers, bikers, and junkies had access already. Now they were seeing a "market" they could exploit. ||

MEANWHILE, OVER IN 'NAM...

(EXCERPTS)

The U. S. Bombs Away, Then Slinks Out of Vietnam

Shortly after the supposed agreement, "a massive American airlift began pouring new weaponry and equipment into South Vietnam." p.47. A U. S. general said of the shipment, "If we had been giving this aid to the North Vietnamese, they could have fought us for the rest of the century." p. 48.

Trying to wrest more concessions from the North to appease Thieu, the U. S. decided on a murderous bombing campaign by B-52's called Linebacker II- known to the rest of the world as the "Christmas Bombing." "War by tantrum," a columnist called it. A hellish finale to one U. S. involvement and an evil presage of how the U. S. military would conduct future operations (i.e. Panama & Iraq). This concentration of bombing the enemy's civilians to expedite negotiations was cruelly copied by Israel, as they pulverized Beirut in 1982.

"Schools, pagodas, markets, shops and homes were all targets of the 'barbarous' and 'criminal' bombing Hanoi charged... Americans comparing those losses with the much higher ones of Dresden, Tokyo... replied that if they had been trying to terrorize civilians, the casualties would have been much higher." p. 56. Olaf Palme compared it to Nazi atrocities, Le Monde likened it to Guernica. The London Daily Mirror said the bombing "made the world recoil in revulsion." p. 57. Die Zeit editorialized "Even allies must call this a crime against humanity." p. 57. The Christmas Bombing was perceived by the U. S. as a sort of parting gift of destruction for Thieu.

The Americans had hoped to sneak out of Saigon via helicopter after a radio signal (the playing of "White Christmas"). Their Vietnamese staffs quickly caught on. At the end, Americans would trample over the backs of Vietnamese, punching, kicking and shoving them away with rifle butts to board their flights.

community feel that the U. S. had gone "crazy." "More and more, the bombing seemed to take on a quality of rage, as if pure violence could succeed in achieving American goals when nothing else could." p. 226

At the height of the climactic seige, Phnom Penh "for the privileged elite there were tennis matches, night clubs, expensive French meals, and opulent brandy-drenched dinner parties." p. 244. Phnom Penh was at the height of desperation when the Khmer Rouge entered. A truly massive relief effort would be needed to prevent mass starvation and disease (Mogadishu?) This would not be forthcoming.

The Khmer Rouge were spawned and nurtured in the crucible of Hell. When they brought their antithesis of life to the Cambodian people, it had a logical dialectic of unleashed evil. Rwanda comes to mind. The lasting image of Cambodia is shelves upon shelves of human skulls.

In Laos, 2,092,900 tons of bombs were dropped from American planes - equal to all the tonnage dropped by the U. S. in the European and Pacific theatres in WWII. "The planes came like birds, and the bombs fell like rain." To Washington, this was "armed reconnaissance." The "electronic war" costing \$2 billion, saw the United States drop thousands of sensors to detect troops movements, truck movement. A false alarm became a "nontargetable activation." Laos offered American military planners a chance to test out their latest gadgetry.

Meo tribemen's choice was supplying teen-age boys to CIA-run guerilla camps or be regarded as Pathet Lao and bombed mercilessly. The American CIA advisors flew out of the hills every night to the safety of Vietiane. To replace the Hmong (Meo) who had been decimated Thai "volunteers" from the Thai army had been "sheepdipped" with Lao identity cards and hustled to the deadly Plain of Jars.

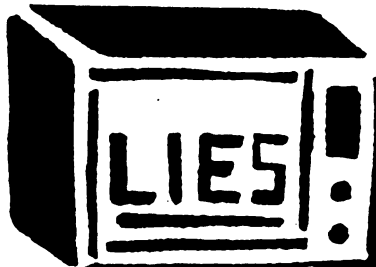
"American actions from 1969 on helped turn Cambodia into a slaughterhouse in which teen-age peasant boys on both sides now murdered each other mindlessly and died in the mud, almost without memory of why they fought. The land lay slathered in blood, but neither in early 1973 or later did the United States offer any plan or policy that promised anything but more fear, pain, and butchery." p. 211.

After the Paris Agreement there was virtually no co-operation between N. Vietnam and Khmer Rouge forces. From February 9, 1973 for six months bombing in Cambodia peaked and hit populous areas, particularly its heartland west of the Mekong River. Death from above was epidemic. Casualties were anonymous, yet enormous. "It was as if the bombers had sought to destroy the earth itself." p. 218. This bombing had no tangible effect on Communist gains, even though by the time of their entrance into Phnom Penh, the Khmer Rouge had suffered an astronomical casualty rate of 95%!

After a period of retreat in the mid-70's, the United States began to revise history and derive "lessons" from the war. Ronald Reagan said "We will never again ask young men to fight and possibly die in a war our government is afraid to win." p. 488. This protected the politicians from the fiasco, soothed military professionals who couldn't understand their failure to "win" and proclaimed that America's "special moral standing" had not been tarnished. Any guilt was shaken off. Lethargy to act in the world would not be a problem. The war was lost, not by American timidity, but by Vietnamese tenacity and the legitimacy of their struggle.

The lesson taught the U.S. military was not to let Americans suffer even moderate casualties, as the U.S. people will not take it. An all volunteer army was instituted to better control the forces and massive use of air power is to be used in place of ground troops. Massive "enemy" casualties are nothing compared to one U.S. death (Shwartzkopf). Panama and Iraq were bombed massively safely from planes and- missiles.

Another method of destroying your enemy is to create and train local killing units ("Vietnamization"). This was done in Argentina, Guatemala, Mozambique, Angola, Chile, El Salvador, Nicaragua, etc. The School of the Americas is to their peoples The School of Assassins. The Phoenix program which targeted alleged "Vietcong" provided a training ground for many future American "advisors". This keeps the American public shielded from believing in anything but America's munificence. Going around the world killing people, destroying the environment, installing ruthless client-states is O.K. We (U.S. people) do not suffer directly and are informed our actions are for their own good. Greatly limiting battlefield reportage is



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ed to eliminate the unpleasant images and screams of those
ve murdered.

To Richard Nixon, writing in his memoirs, the anti-war protestors
(Congress) are to blame for America's defeat. Anti-war protestors
painted as anti-U.S. soldier and the effusive "Support Our Boys"
"aq served to sidetrack any discussion or protest to this vile
lletting.

Kissinger absolved himself of any culpability by saying "We
ld never have been there at all. But now it's history." p. 485.
ty of war crimes to rank with those hung at Nuremburg, he is
bel Prize winner, respected guest on Nightline and elder statesman
he Republican Party.

The North Vietnamese party newspaper Nhan Dan characterized
on as "an extremely bellicose aggressor, an international pirate,
bathsome bloodthirsty man and a dangerous plotter." p. 20.

The legacy of death remained and continues
haunt Vietnam. More Vietnamese citizens have died after the
ir from unexploded U.S. bombs than all American deaths during the
ar. Dioxin and country-wide ecocide has seared into the quality
f life. Their birth-rates remain low, their cancer rates are high
d hideous birth defects are common. As in Iraq, it's the children
o today still suffer greatly from the result of massive American
rrorism. Excuse me, I meant to say, "America's defense of freedom
d respect for human rights."



BACK Home IN TINLEY...

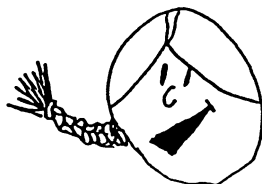
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Juxtaposed against the daily slaughter in Vietnam, were the inklings of mental freedom. The hippies seemed happy "living on love." Music became meaningful. College students were demonstrating and occupying buildings. Blacks had militant, young leadership and their ghettos went up in flames with bloody regularity. These militants were systematically gunned down by the police apparatus and fellow traveling reactionaries. I was sixteen when Fred Hampton's free breakfast program for ghetto children and adult education was utterly traumatized by his murder from sheriff ambush. Fred was one of the very few great men of this country.

The young whites in Tinley started to wobble out of their lower class orbits. Their parents turned on them. The teachers never did like 'em, and the cops went on the offensive. The young would collect at rendezvous points - safe houses, parks, but mostly in the woods. When the cops invaded our party spots in the woods, we could usually scatter from our bonfire without capture. Someone might even toss bullets into the fire for their arrival. We hated the pigs. Sometimes, we'd see our friends, beaten to a bloody pulp, spill out of a car. "What happened to you?" "Fuckin' cops..." Other times, we'd see friends for the first time in a long while - at court! Everyone ended up with some kind of charge on court day.

It was opposition for the hell of it, though. A friend of mine's brother burned down the mushroom factory. Abandoned buildings were systematically destroyed. First they were smashed with hammers, then burned. Some cars met the same fate (mine included!) People were under seige, but we had little or no political consciousness. Those that did, tended to steer clear of the asocial dopers that hung out on the street. They'd go downtown to demonstrate against the government and actually read. I did both scenes. I wasn't fond of downers, though. When "reds" or "twos" or "ludes" came to town, look out! After all, you've got to wash 'em down with cheap wine. Frustration from ignorance, hopelessness, lovelessness and victimization, raged. Car crashes, vicious fights, rip-offs and belligerence were acute. Overdoses, sickness and despair were its residue.

Those frightened into ultra conformity, walked a tight rope of scorn and vigilance against temptation. These were the "socialites." They believed their parents lies that marijuana was the gateway to ruination. They saw many around them dissolve and figured it all started with the evil weed. But, they were young, too, and couldn't avoid being lumped in with the rest of us. They liked current music, too, even if it was the watered down version. They had



eyes and ears, too. Less and less of them wanted to go to Vietnam, especially 16 after seeing a neighbor, friend or loved one come back dead or wounded, psychologically destroyed. It seemed the whole town was psychologically destroyed. "Something is not right, but what?" they thought.

Many of these teens, especially the fellows, wound up experimenting with pot, anyway. They never, thank GOD! got "with it" and easily fell back into their assigned workers slots, provided by capitalism's companies. The pot didn't melt their minds. Being grateful, they settled for life-long conservative no-think. Obviously, it didn't expand their minds, either.

As for the incorrigible ones, they'd float around to the music festivals, making a nuisance of themselves with their violent, doped-out, ignorant behavior. Attrition set in. Overdose by barbituates and heroin became common. "Tick," "Angel Dust," FCP, DMH, DMT, etc, often turned many into zombies. Some were gang-pressed into prison. Psychological torment reached unbearable levels. Like jackals preying on the weakest springbok, vulnerable young men and women were sucked into the psychological gulag, often by "well meaning" adults. It was like taking your sick or injured dog to the vet and have them "humanely" destroy them - and get billed for it. Tinley Park ("Twinkling Farts" my old friend, Jerry Schaidt used to call it - He overdosed on horse,) had its own large "mental health" facility. Many lost souls were kidnapped, drugged, and imprisoned there, processed and sent to more inescapable institutions.

One sweet, lost-at-sea kid, named Billy Squiller, couldn't take it anymore and jumped out of a ten story window, I think at Michael Reese. He died. Suicide was becoming a common way out of total despair. One guy who took over my paper route when we were kids, George Ames, took this option. He was a sensitive guy, who once cared for a number of orphaned raccoons. He was engaged to be married. I went to a party, held at the house he was staying at. Before the sun rose again, he fired a shotgun through his head, splattering his brains along his bedroom wall. A friend of mine's sister recently fired a pistol into her head, in the shower. She lived a very loveless life. Her sister, however, managed to break away. She married a black man, against all her family's racist wishes, got the hell out, and experienced love and human decency. I was damn proud of her! How many drug overdoses were suicides or murders? Who knows??

Also, an alarming number of Tinley's street people were found dead. Somebody ran them over with a car or they were found frozen to death in a car, behind somebody's house. Nobody cared for society's dregs. Bodies were found in ditches or decomposed in the woods. So, they were disposed of. We'd call each other on the phone and learn of the latest death. "How ya doin'?" "I'm still alive!" "That's good - I guess."

UN decides to continue sanctions against Iraq

All this never happened. Tinley's become upscale. It's been "restored" and gentrified. It has no sordid past, anymore. Everything is on the commercial up and up. Expensive condos line up to accept the presense and money of middle managers. Life is ka-chinging along. Why, we even have our own "rush" hour! That's a definite sign that we've "made it!"

We've learned from our mistakes in Vietnam, too! Don't tell 'em anything, anymore. Send only thoroughly brainwashed personnel. Get it over quick (hyper war) and get the party started! Why think when there are so many products to gorge upon???

What's become of these spectres from the sixties and seventies? Many have scattered like the wind to other states - North Carolina, Texas, Arizona, Wisconsin, Indiana, etc. They're rarely, if ever, heard from again. Some were one step ahead of the law, anyway. Others settled nearby and fashioned some sort of truncated life. One of the more superficial socialites, went to Hollywood and became a big "success" churning out insipid screen plays and moronic situation comedies. Some are subsistence junkies. Some even managed to get a life, a wife and kids. All too often, attempts at a relationship ended in miserable failure and many, in their forties, still live at home. So, a supposed white idyll, Tinley Park, turned into some twisted version of the Possessed. How must it be for the young in the black ghettos??? They must have gotten a better take on reality, but they start with nothing. Racism, ignorance, and lovelessness lead to "madness." No big surprise, if you look at it.

A very small number of these people puked up the cyanide capsule provided so lovingly by society. Bastardizing themselves and selling out to the almighty dollar, wasn't cool, either. They survived, somehow. They protected their brains and nurtured themselves, alone. In this wilderness, some found love and were able to become Abolitionists and Anarchists.

"Oh, the ones that slip through your fingers! If only we could do it all over again, with our computer technology, we could be so much more thorough!! Infanticide!!! Long live death culture!!!!"

Well, that was pretty brutal. Let's take a break and check the email.

SOUTH CHICAGO ARA ALERT #1 (July 10, 1998): A new publication by Anthony Rayson of THOUGHT BOMBS fame. ARA, for those who do not know, stands for Anti-Racist Action. Articles included "Nazi Filth Cleanup," "Racism and Housing in Chicago's South Suburbs," and "Brokaw's Show: Who Profits From Racism?" by Anthony Rayson. For a copy of this publication, send \$2 to: Anthony Rayson, 27009 S. Egyptian Trail, Monee, IL 60449.



By Marta Gurvich

...

"What is your favorite book," a journalist asked Gen. Rafael Videla, after he ascended to power in Argentina in 1976.

"Book?" Videla replied.

The journalist was perspiring. He didn't think it was a hard question to ask someone leading the nation. But suddenly the journalist felt that the question could jeopardize not only his career but his life.

> It was embarrassing that the new president could not come up
> with at least one title of one book. So the journalist tried
> to help out with suggestions: "The Bible perhaps? Martin
> Fierro (the most important book in Argentina's literature)?"

> Videla said something about his first-grade reading book,
> but ... he could not remember its title. [Diario Perfil, an
> article by Omar Bravo, July 10, 1998]

...

> Former Argentine president Jorge Rafael Videla, the
> 73-year-old dapper dictator who launched the so-called Dirty War
> in 1976, was arrested on June 9 for a particularly bizarre crime
> of state, one that rips at the heart of human relations.

> Videla, known for his English-tailored suits and his
> ruthless counterinsurgency theories, stands accused of permitting
> --- and concealing -- a scheme to harvest infants from pregnant
> women who were kept alive in military prisons only long enough to
> give birth.

> According to the charges, the babies were taken from the new
> mothers, sometimes by late-night Caesarean sections, and then
> distributed to military families or shipped to orphanages. After
> the babies were pulled away, the mothers were removed to another
> site for their executions.

> Yet, Argentina now is engulfed in a legal debate over
> whether Videla can be judged a second time for these grotesque
> kidnappings. After democracy was restored in Argentina, Videla
> was among the generals convicted of human rights crimes,
> including "disappearances," tortures, murders and kidnappings. In
> 1985, Videla was sentenced to life imprisonment at the military
> prison of Magdalena.

> But, on Dec. 29, 1990, amid rumblings of another possible
> military coup, President Carlos Menem pardoned Videla and other
> convicted generals. Many politicians considered the pardons a
> pragmatic decision of national reconciliation that sought to shut
> the door on the dark history of the so-called Dirty War when the
> military slaughtered from 10,000 to 30,000 Argentines.

> Relatives of the victims, however, continued to uncover
> evidence that children taken from their mothers' wombs sometimes
> were being raised as the adopted children of their mothers'
> murderers. For 15 years, a group called Grandmothers of the Plaza
> de Mayo has been demanding the return of these kidnapped
> children, estimated to number as many as 500.

> After years of detective work, the Grandmothers documented
> the identities of 256 missing babies. Of those, however, only 56
> children were ever located and seven of them had died. Aided by
> recent breakthroughs in genetic testing, the Grandmothers
> succeeded in returning 31 children to their biological families.
> Thirteen were raised jointly by their adoptive and biological
> families and the remaining cases are bogged down in court custody
> battles.

> But the baby kidnappings gained a new focus last year with

>developments in the case of Silvia Quintela, a leftist doctor who
>attended to the sick in shanty towns around Buenos Aires. On Jan.
>17, 1977, Quintela was abducted off a Buenos Aires street by
>military authorities because of her political leanings. At the
>time, Quintela and her agronomist husband Abel Madariaga were
>expecting their first child.

> According to witnesses who later testified before a
>government truth commission, Quintela was held at a military base
>called Campo de Mayo, where she gave birth to a baby boy. As in
>similar cases, the infant then was separated from the mother.
>What happened to the boy is still not clear, but Quintela
>reportedly was transferred to a nearby airfield.

> There, victims were stripped naked, shackled in groups and
>dragged aboard military planes. The planes then flew out over the
>Rio de la Plata or the Atlantic Ocean, where soldiers pushed the
>victims out of the planes and into the water to drown.

ARGENTINA

A Dictator Jailed

President Carlos Menem pardoned him years ago for his involvement in the murder of an estimated 30,000 people during Argentina's "dirty war" of 1976-83. But now the president during that period, General Jorge Videla, is back in jail facing new charges of child kidnapping.

Videla was arrested on the orders of Federal Judge Roberto Marquevich, who is investigating the kidnapping of babies born in clandestine torture centers during the dictatorship and then illegally adopted by military couples, reports the liberal *Buenos Aires Herald*.

More than 2,000 people rallied in Buenos Aires to demand a life sentence for Videla. The case is at least partially a result of the work of the human-rights group, the Grandmothers of the

Plaza de Mayo, who have been searching for the children of the "disappeared" for decades.

In the wake of Videla's arrest, writes Daniel Gatti of Rome's Third World-oriented Inter Press Service, army chief General Martin Balza admitted that during the dirty war the armed forces issued orders to kill pregnant detainees after they gave birth in order to turn their babies over to members of the military.



Jorge Videla



<<Gay Wyoming Student Dead

FORT COLLINS - 21 year old, Matthew Shepard, died Monday after a brutal attack by 2 homophobic thugs. Charges against two men being held for the attack, have been upgraded to first degree murder, from attempted murder. Shepard was so severely beaten that the passing motorist who found him at first thought the figure on the fence post was a scarecrow... not hard to believe considering he was savagely beaten, tied to a fence, and left for dead.

The pictures of the two monsters who did this are typical. They look just like the snaggle-toothed troglodites that dragged the black man in Jasper, Texas. You may not understand, or like homosexuality, but it's been around since the dawn of recorded history. Throughout the ages some eras have been more accepting of the sexual anomaly than others. I hope these two men and their hideous girlfriends who helped clean up the blood receive the maximum penalty allowed.>>

*****Petition*****cut and paste

As you all know, Matthew Shepard, a college student in Wyoming was savagely beaten, pistol whipped, and left for dead. He was at the Poudre Valley Hospital, living on life support as his condition worsened. On Monday (10/12/98), a little after midnight, Matthew Shepard died.

END THE HATE CRIMES NOW! Transgendered, Gay, and Lesbian people need as much hate crime protection & consideration as does any other minority; social, religious, or racial. Every day, youth in schools, colleges, universities, and on the street, are being persecuted for their perceived sexuality or gender variance. Our children are committing suicide, running away from home, or are being killed. Matthew Shepard's murder struck a note in our hearts, and not only the GLBT community, but the world, should make his memory a promise to continue the struggle against violence against any human being. Send this to everyone you know, sign this petition, and make yourself heard. When you sign this, CC it to msheward@libra.pvh.org, and president@whitehouse.gov

Anti-gay float mocks Wyo. victim

FORT COLLINS, Colo. - Colorado State University officials are investigating how a scarecrow that mocked homosexuals showed up on a homecoming parade float while a gay man lay dying in a local hospital.

The parade took place Saturday. That same day, a gay University of Wyoming student lay dying in Poudre Valley Hospital five miles across town after an attack being denounced as a hate crime.

Matthew Shepard died Monday, six days after he was lured from a Laramie, Wyo., campus hangout, beaten and lashed to a split-rail fence.

The bicyclists who found him at first mistook him for a scarecrow. Two men arrested in the attack face murder charges.

The scarecrow appeared on a float sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Nicholas Haws, homecoming chairman for Pi Kappa Alpha, said the scarecrow was supposed to be in the uniform of the Tulsa University's Golden Hurricane, Colorado State's opponents in Saturday's football game.

He said someone vandalized the float Friday night, pinning a sign saying "I am Gay" and an anti-gay epithet on the figure. He said the scarecrow was removed but someone placed it back on the float prior to Saturday's parade.

Nathan Stanley, president of the Fort Collins chapter of the fraternity, said the appearance of the scarecrow was inadvertent.

"The fraternity does not promote any kind of stuff like that," he said.

The sorority did not immediately comment.

University President Albert C. Yates said appropriate disciplinary

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An Anti-Violence Project administrator told the crowds: "If you have no identification and are arrested for being in the streets, you may have to spend more time in the system than you expect." The warning ringing in their ears, the huge crowd poured only over the sidewalks, streaming down 5th Avenue.

The police were overwhelmed by sheer numbers but they took control of 5th Avenue. The crowd arrived somewhere above St. Patrick's Cathedral (in Manhattan's mid-50s) and then marshalls directed it to turn West to The Avenue of the Americas-- 6th Avenue--and headed toward Times Square. "It was clear we could have tied up the whole city if we'd reached Times Square," said Wicker.

Wicker continued: "At 6th Avenue, police blockaded the entire street and all sidewalks, but there was a construction site and the crowds went around police barricades. Traffic on the Avenue of the Americas was brought to a complete standstill."

At this point, Wicker witnessed approximately 8 police grabbing one marcher, throwing him atop a scooter and brutally pummeling him. But an angry mob surrounded the "pigs" threateningly advancing on them. "There I was," Wicker said of himself, "Wagging my finger in the face of a cop. I'd never expected such a thing to happen!"

The crowds advanced down 6th Avenue surging between four lanes of "totally stopped traffic". But then marshalls linked arms and told the crowds to return to 5th Avenue. "It's dangerous to march against traffic," they advised, "It would only take one crazy driver to step on the accelerator and mow people down."

In the mid-50s again, this time marchers passed St. Patrick's Cathedral. There were no untoward incidents reported in front of this Roman Catholic edifice, but many marchers did shout "Shame! Sham! Shame!" as they passed the giant church.

At 43th and 5th marshalls linked arms again and directed the masses to return west. Ahead, at 42nd Street, police had decided to take a stand and could be clearly seen lined up in the distance.

"That's when it got ugly," Wicker said. "All exits were closed. Five thousand people were trapped on 43rd near 6th Avenue...marshalls sat down holding hands. That's when police on horseback marched into the crowd clubbing and trampling and arresting people. We were pinned like cattle for about 45 minutes."

"There were people carrying caskets, rainbow flags, drums," said Wicker. "I've never felt such inner surges of wonder... excitement!"

At this point the marchers were divided, but approximately 80% went back to 5th Avenue and continued downtown stopping all mid-town traffic. Just south of the Public Library they took control of the street.

Police commandeered buses, emptying them of passengers so that they could be used as arrest stations.

"It was now about 8:30 p.m." said Wicker, "and we were just getting to 25th Street where the candlelight vigil was to be held in the Park. But there was no speaker system. A woman stood up and tried to address the crowd without a bullhorn. She said that several speakers had been scheduled but that they'd all been arrested. Finally, people out of the audience brought in bullhorns and the crowd -- all carrying candles -- became utterly silent."

Wicker says speeches were delivered -- including a particularly moving one by a black woman -- telling how Matthew Shepard had been killed because he was gay. The thousands already overflowing Madison Square Park were finally joined by hundreds more who'd been diverted earlier and who were carrying drums.

Monitoring New York's TV News coverage, Wicker said that CBS (Channel 2) had been "terrible" in its support of police against gays. NBC (Channel 4) and Fox (Channel 5) however had both done "an excellent job" of exposing police misbehaviors.

"Gay New Yorkers must be advised that video tapes of the violence and the badge numbers of offending police have been noted," said Wicker "and those who witnessed police brutality are being urged to come forward."

"The cops caused the riot by being control freaks," Wicker noted with perfect confidence.

known as Patrice Lumumba University, where he hangs out with African students. "I don't think that I'm entirely white," he says. "My skin color may be white, but I don't feel that way inside. I don't consider myself a white person." Not that that matters, he adds. After all, just wearing the wrong kind of pants can be enough to provoke a beating in Moscow.

That wasn't nearly as fun as some video game. Let's try the White Privilege Lists!

1. I can arrange to be in the company of people of my race most of the time.
2. I can avoid spending time with people whom I was trained to mistrust and who have learned to mistrust my kind or me.
3. If I should need to move, I can be pretty sure of renting or purchasing a dwelling in an area which I can afford and in which I would want to live.
4. I can be pretty sure that my neighbors in such a location will be neutral or pleasant to me.
5. I can go shopping alone most of the time, pretty well assured that I will not be followed or harassed.
6. I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely represented.
7. When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization," I will be shown that people of my color made it what it is.
8. I can be sure that my children will be given curricular materials that testify to the existence of their race.
9. If I want to, I can be pretty sure of finding a publisher for this piece on white privilege.
10. I can be pretty sure of having my voice heard in a group in which I am the only member of my race.
11. I can choose whether or not to hear another woman's voice in a group in which she is the only member of her race.



12. I can go into a music shop and count on finding the music of my race represented, into a supermarket and find the food I grew up with, into a hairdresser's shop and find someone who can deal with my hair.
13. Whether I use checks, credit cards, or cash I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial responsibility.
14. I can arrange to protect my children most of the time from people who might not like them.
15. I do not have to educate my children to be aware of systematic racism for their own protection.
16. I can be pretty sure my children will be well liked by their teachers, if they are obedient children, my chief worries about them do not concern societal attitudes toward their race.
17. I can talk with my mouth full and not have people put this down to my color.
18. I can swear, or dress in second-hand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty, or the illiteracy of my race.
19. I can speak in public to a powerful male group without putting my race on trial.
20. I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race.
21. I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.
22. I can remain oblivious to the language and customs of persons of color (who constitute the world's majority,) without feeling any penalty from my culture for such obliviousness.



23. I can criticize our government and talk about how much I fear its policies and behavior, without being seen as a cultural outsider.

24. I can be pretty sure that if I ask to talk to "the person in charge," I will be facing a person of my own race.

25. If a traffic cop pulls me over, or if the IRS audits my tax return, I can be sure I haven't been singled out because of my color.

26. I can easily buy posters, post-cards, picture books, greeting cards, dolls, toys and children's magazines featuring people of my race.

27. I can go home from most meetings of the organizations I belong to, feeling somewhat tied-in, rather than isolated, out-of-place, outnumbered, unheard, feared, or hated.

28. I can be pretty sure that if I argue for the promotion of a person of another race, or a program centering on race, this is not likely to cost me heavily within my present setting, even if my colleagues disagree with me.

29. I can be pretty sure that if I argue for the promotion of a person of another race, or a program centering on race, that this is not likely to cost me heavily within my present setting, even if my colleagues disagree with me.

30. If I declare that there is a racial issue at hand, or there isn't a racial issue at hand, my race will lend me more credibility for either position, than a person of color would have.

33. I can choose to ignore developments in minority writing and minority activist programs, or disparage them, or learn from them. But in any case, I can find ways to be more or less protected from negative consequences from any of these choices.

32. My culture gives me little fear about ignoring the opinions of women and men, who are not of my race.



33. I am not made acutely aware that my shape, bearing, or body odor will be taken as a reflection of my race.
34. I can worry about racism without being seen as self-interested or self-seeking.
35. I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having my co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of my race.
36. I can be pretty sure of finding people who would be willing to talk with me, or advise me about my next steps, professionally.
37. I can think over many options - social, political, imaginative, or professional without asking whether a person of my race would be accepted or allowed to do what I want to do.
38. I can expect to find in the grocery store staple foods which fit in with my cultural traditions.
39. I can be late to a meeting without having such lateness reflect on my race.
40. I can choose public accommodations without fearing that people of my race cannot get in or will be mistreated.
41. I can be sure that if I need legal or medical help, my race will not work against me.
42. I can arrange my activities so that I will never have to experience feelings of rejection, owing to my race.
43. If I have low credibility as a leader in the dominant society, I can be sure that my race is not the problem.
44. I can choose blemish cover or bandages in "flesh" color and have them more or less match my skin.

This movement also controls a huge broadcasting industry. By 1987, religious broadcasting was a \$2 billion/year industry, and religious broadcasters controlled more than 1,000 full-time Christian radio stations and more than 200 full-time Christian television stations around the world, though most were based in the U.S. Such Christian media moguls as Pat Robertson from the 700 Club have used their exposure to sway political opinions towards "pro-family" legislation, towards rabidly anti-communist candidates.

Furthermore, they use their money to support horrible military dictatorships in Latin America, Africa, as well as brutal right wing groups such as the Nicaraguan Contras. Court cases have led to the conviction for fraud of key "missionaries" in this industry—for pocketing huge sums of money from fundraisers.

North American Christian Righters have consistently rallied behind their buddies in high places (ie. the White House) in waging physical, economic and ideological warfare on their Third World opponents. With their political missionary work, these right wing Christians support campaigns to stifle indigenous and left wing opposition, all while using religion to mask this objective.

STREET LEVEL WHITE PRIVILEGE

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1. I can get pulled over by the cops and not expect to be sworn at by racist pigs, assaulted, beaten, robbed, have dope planted on me, be dragged off to prison, have false charges leveled against me (and have them stick!) or be "justifiably" shot to death!
2. If I am charged with a crime, such as beating a young black boy senseless, causing permanent brain damage (for riding his bicycle in "my" neighborhood,) I can expect to be treated with kid gloves, have a decent lawyer, and have it come down with NO jail time - instead of being railroaded into the prison-labor system with a huge proportion of others of my "race," likewise, eternally incarcerated!
3. I can go to a store without store security immediately following me around and drive off without being automatically tailed by the cops.
4. I can wake up in the morning, go out and get the morning newspaper without racist graffiti defacing my garage, having a cross burning in my yard, or having a molotov cocktail shatter one of my windows and ignite inside my bedroom, where my babies were sleeping!
5. I can go buy a car or a house or any damn thing without being lied to and ripped-off to the outrageous extent that any black person is.
6. I can live each day, knowing that very few members of my "race" are starving and dying ON EVERY CONTINENT from malnutrition and preventable diseases.
7. I can walk around, unmolested, with a wallet full of money with pictures of white, male, slave-owners, which can actually purchase ANY commodity! - NO QUESTIONS ASKED!
8. I can live my life - totally racially oblivious - and be considered



9. I can come home from work, sit and stare at vapid white sitcoms and not have to look at a black face until the lurid, sensational reports of the latest murder are shown - just before beddy-bye, on the ten o'clock news.
10. I can come home to my quiet white suburb and not have to see, feel or hear the anguish, suffering or torment of those people of color, stuck in the inner city (or suburban) ghettos.
11. I can live my life without the constant worry of having so many of my family and friends ensnared by the "law."
12. If I get busted with a pile of cocaine, it'll suck, but I'll manage to get off somehow, unlike the guy selling the same amount of crack, which the CIA flooded the black community with. The "black" dealer will be thrown in jail FOREVER because the drug laws (and all the other laws) are written and enforced in such a virulently racist fashion!
13. I can go to bed at night to the pleasant sounds of the crickets and cicadas instead of the staccato of gunfire and the wail of police sirens, because the accelerating war on the poor is mainly being waged in the black community!
14. My brothers and I will LIVE!*** to celebrate our 21st birthday - WITHOUT being shot to death!!!

It's a fact . . .



The U.S. prison population passed the 1.2 million mark in 1997 according to an August Department of Justice report. The 5.2-percent growth to 1,244,554 federal and state inmates fell slightly below the 7-percent average growth during the 1990s.

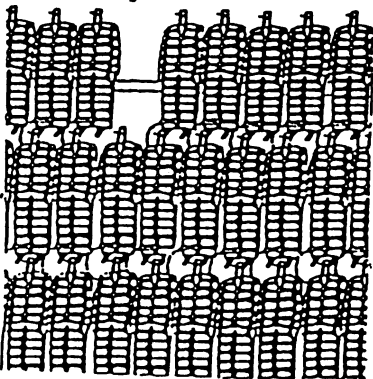
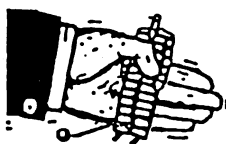


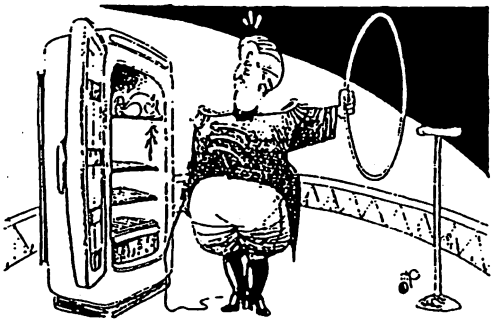
More than half-a-million other men and women served shorter sentences or awaited trials in jails during 1997. With this continued growth, the prison and jail populations will crest 2 million by the year 2000, according to a report by The Sentencing Project.



The total U.S. incarceration rate of 645 people per 100,000 is 6- to 10-times higher than most industrial nations. The growth is being explained by increasing prison stays driven by tougher laws and mandatory sentencing.

A rise in revoked probation and parole has been a big factor in keeping prison admissions constant even though violent crime has declined during the 1990s. The author of the Justice Department report said that in 1996, 30 percent of all prisoners were put there for parole violations.

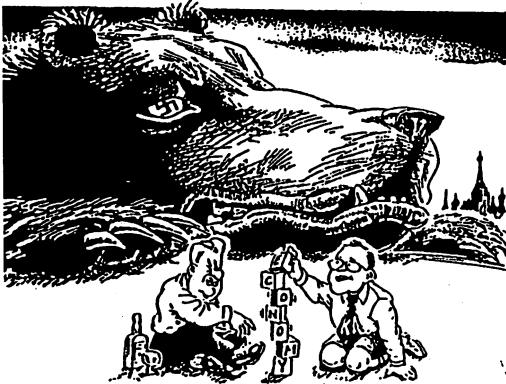




Gomaa/Rose al-Youssef/Cairo



abor alienation on the Nike shoe line in Guangdong Province.



Schrank/The Economist/London

ANTI-ABORTION VIOLENCE

JANUARY, 1997: Two bombs blast apart an Atlanta clinic and 7 people are injured.

NOVEMBER 11, 1997: Dr. Jack Fainman is shot by a sniper at his home in Winnipeg.

NOVEMBER 10, 1993: Dr. Hugh Short is shot by a sniper at his home in Ancaster, Ontario.

DECEMBER 30, 1994: 2 people are killed and 5 others are injured after John Salvi opens fire on an abortion clinic in Boston.

NOVEMBER 8, 1994: Dr. Garson Romalis is shot at his home in Vancouver.

JULY 29, 1994: Dr. John Bayard Britton and his bodyguard, James Barret, are killed outside an abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida. Former minister Paul Hill is convicted.

AUGUST 19, 1993: Dr. George Tiller is shot in his clinic parking lot by Rachelle Shannon in Wichita, Kansas.

MARCH 10, 1993: Dr. David Gunn is killed outside his clinic in Pensacola by Michael Griffin.



Anti-Racist Action

Things aren't looking so good. But then, we always have our holidays!

HOLLOW DAZE

500 YEARS OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER



1992
CALENDAR

SOUTH END PRESS

BY
M. WUERKER

FROM PLYMOUTH ROCK TO THE PERSIAN GULF

HOLLOW DAZE

We need new holidays. Columbus Day? Columbus was a Dahmer-like butcher of countless human beings, which of course, is to be condemned, not honored. Easter? Yeah, right. J.C. died, then reappeared three days later, then split again, hinting at a future reappearance way in the future. It's a crock-of-shit myth that has had people in a tizzy for centuries. It's not worthy of all the fuss. Somehow, people feel that if they make a huge show of their "obedience" to these make-believe Christian stories, they live forever. Those who don't copy their strange behavior? They have to suffer being eternally cooked. It's crazy, so skip Easter, Christmas, Hanukkah, - the whole religious bit. All religions of modern (wo)man (who have been around for maybe 200,00 years) have developed the last several centuries, from earlier pagan myths. Untold amounts of bloodshed have been spilled by "infidels" thanks to the mighty swift sword of various religious zealots. People can and are good, caring, loving human beings without the albatross of this homophobic, women-hating nonsense.

If you want to be thankful for something, honor the life-giving sun, or the oceans - even the moon is quite pleasant and of course, the stars are nice. Maybe you'd like to be thankful for organic chemistry, biology or the laws of physics. Or we could celebrate matter - molecules and the atoms which have a tendency to form into organic components, over billions of years.

Matter does exist and has a tendency toward organic recombination. This allows for the possibility of life. That's worthy of respect, but concocting an elaborate set of anti-human fairy tales which rely heavily on fear and "faith" leads people into false thinking and often, aggressive, murderous behavior towards others, who think and live differently.

So, I would say, forget all of the religious holidays of any religion! These countless different religions have different explanations for the unexplainable (unexplainable because there is nothing to explain - life on Earth just is.) Sadly, they almost invariably have strong anti-woman, anti-homosexual, anti-children, anti-freedom components. They require obedience, blind acceptance of doctrine and forced

Thought Bombs

\$2

A DIY anarchist zine containing not only activist articles, but personal ones as well. Has a letters section, news, a large section on the Lac Du Flambeau treaty, and an interview with Sean Lambert.

Anthony Rayson/ 27009 S. Egyptian Trail/
Monee, IL 60449

South Chicago ARA Alert

A zine put together by the new ARA in South Chicago containing 60 pages of articles and poetry on abolitionism, racism, sexism, housing, and the like. Well done.

S.C.A.R.A./ PO Box 721/ Homewood, IL 60430
ara_s_sides@hotmail.com

ignorance of any "other." Sounds like Stalin-style "communism," doesn't it? It's damn similar. "Believe this crap - or else! At least pretend to believe it, but don't go around dissing it. This stuff is above criticism, reproach, inquiry or taxation. Don't make us go on a crusade to wipe the infidels off the face of the earth, which of course, is 'God's Will.'"

Is this the "Christian love" part? I can't tell. Between the clinic bombings, the cheerleading for the mass U.S. bombing campaigns and the clamoring of the racist Christian militias, it's tough to feel the "love." Love is pain, I guess. You see, there is no tangible connection between Christian "belief" and human warmth, decency and genuine love. Many people in every society are quite loving, yet manage to believe vastly different things, religiously. The Christians (and all the others) like to claim this love as their own as a sort of ransom to make folks swallow all the doctrinal nonsense that is their real agenda. Don't let them suck you in with fear and shame. You'll be much more aware and honest with your loving, without all the dogma. Your soul, your spirit, your energy and the good, kind loving, giving works you do are from YOU! You are a viable entity who is not beholden to some nebulous, utterly mum, universe-wide head honcho. Give yourself some credit and live a righteous life - and take full responsibility for doing so! It is its own reward and provides increased, reciprocal response from others. Don't cheapen it, by expecting to get a ticket to eternal never-never land. You live on by the memory and legacy of your good works while you are alive - that should be motivation enough.

Anyway, about the holidays. Let's see. We start with New Year's Day. This is an excuse to get stinking drunk the night before, chase after someone else's wife, then mope through countless college football bowl games (with more booze,) pretend to be pleasant to relatives and eat dead animals. It's not the most poignant of occasions. Skip it.

Next is Martin Luther King Day. This is a decent holiday, which many "whites" hate. King was a great "black" leader, who when gunned down by a racist conspiracy, was rapidly progressing in his thinking. He was becoming seriously anti-war and starting to pose a powerful moral challenge to the state. Let's keep that one.

Next is Lincoln's birthday. Lincoln wanted to preserve the union at

You're Not Normal #7

\$2

This zine is what DIY Anarcho-Punk is all about. Packed full of activist info, 7 interviews, rants, reviews and lots of other stuff making this zine well worth reading.

Sean Lambert/ 2835 Delaware Ave. Apt. #1/
Kenmore, NY 14217

all costs. Unfortunately, he was able to do this, but at least chattel slavery was formally (on paper, anyway) eliminated, during his tenure. Racism, genocide, prison slavery and exploitation - the bedrocks of American reality - continued on. This was a watershed period of American history. Lincoln possessed some eloquence. This time period holds many lessons and should be seriously studied. Lincoln at his most righteous, took his cues from the Abolitionists. It would be more appropriate to have an Abolitionist Day, instead of honoring a life-long mainstream politician, dragged along by the forces of history to "greatness." He too, was felled by a racist assassin.

Next comes Washington's birthday. In many states, the two birthdays are combined into "President's Day." Had Nazi Germany won World War II, we'd probably be celebrating "Führer's Day." Let's forget it. Washington led the white, male, slave-owning, land-owning class who were tired of forking over some dough to the king of England. They wanted to exploit America exclusively. He was the first of a stringerful of slave-owning, aristocratic presidents. They talked of freedom and democracy while systematizing human slavery, subjugating all women and the deceitful (yet thorough) extermination of very nearly all of America's indigenous peoples. This they "justified" morally by the mind-deadening intellectual molasses of fundamentalist Christianity and the pseudoscience of racial categorizing, with the "whiteman" being superior and stuck with the duty of slaughter and rape. Thomas Jefferson, Mr. Declaration of Independence, articulated these beliefs quite extensively. That is not worthy of celebrating, by any stretch of the imagination. It is rather, the blueprint for the dreadful reality of global oppression and the very real threat of human extinction, which all people must now live under daily. In fact, the creation of the U.S. monster is the worst disaster to ever befall Earth - worse than mass extinctions, ice ages, everything! Before it is all said and done, the U.S. may carry through with its threat of destroying life on earth forevermore, if it doesn't like how things are going at some point.

Also in February is Valentine's Day. Now, this is a holiday honoring love. Naturally, it is subject to the most crass commercialization. But then, so is every other day and since I'm writing this and my wife and I were married on Valentine's Day, I say, hold your nose and keep ill





In March, we have St. Patrick's Day. It has turned into a show of Irishness - and getting drunk. St. Patrick was some kind of important Catholic Irishman, but I'm not too clear what he did or stood for. The Irish are cool. They have great music and a rich, valiant history opposing British imperialism. The christianity (catholic and protestant) seems to only have exacerbated their problems and allowed the Brits to keep their heel on the throats of a fractious Ireland. So, I'm leery of St. Patrick's Day, but the suffering and defiance of Ireland (the "niggers" of Europe) deserves the world's respect. Let's change it to Self-Determination Day or Bobby Sand Remembrance Day. This can be a time to redouble our efforts towards eradicating imperialism.

The Ides of March is also in this month. This is when Julius Caesar had some serious personal problems. His buddy, Brutus, became most unfriendly and killed him. That's too bad for you, Julius, but it's not important enough to "celebrate." You should not have been such a vain and cruel despot. What goes around, comes around.

I like the seasonal changes - the vernal equinox, the summer solstice, autumnal equinox and winter solstice. This is our earth and our solar system and we should celebrate these natural turning points. We're creatures, my friends, who have the possibility of an awareness of our surroundings and should take note. Of course, there are those who aim to exploit and rule over others and concoct elaborate means of keeping folks from using their brains, usefully. Being cognizant of our physical reality can only improve our perceptiveness and make the job of exploitation more difficult. Sheep are easier to control than cats.

April Fool's Day... If the condition of the human race wasn't such a hideous joke, this wouldn't even be considered. Of course, it's been sort of turned into a day to pull pranks, be deceitful and try to embarrass those around us - quite foolish. But then, people do this every day, in between all the raping and murdering and the small bits of love and human kindness. We don't need a special day to cue us on when to act like turkeys - at least we shouldn't!

April 15th - TAX DAY! Some day! Give the government 1/3 of your meager wages (unless rich enough to loophole out of paying taxes, altogether!) This will insure that the government can make more nuclear weapons, train more death squads, build more prisons, hire

* is to be watched over, inspected, patented, licensed, authorized, spied on, directed, legislated, recommended, admonished, regimented, closed in, indoctrinated, prevented, reformed, set right, preached at, controlled, assessed, corrected....Then at the first sign of resistance or word of complaint, one is repressed, fined, depised, vexed, evaluated, censored, commanded; all by creatures that have neither the right, nor wisdom, nor virtue. To be pursued, hustled, beaten up, governed means that at every move, garroted, imprisoned, shot, machine-operation, or transaction one is noted, gunned, judged, sentenced, deported, registered, ...

outraged, and dishonoured. at is government, it is its justice and its morality.

more ignorant cops and spy on everybody more thoroughly. I saw in the paper the pentagon was crying that they didn't think they could easily mount simultaneous Desert Storm type slaughters. "We" would need tons of more money, which congress will no doubt cascade towards the military. This day should be noted. Let's give it a new litle, though. How about "Extortion Day," or maybe "C.A.S.E. (Coersive Authority/Systematic Extortion) Day?"

Next come MAYDAY. In this country it has been turned inside-out. It's called "Law Day." We're supposed to honor the oppressive arm of the state - the cops, law and order, private property, capitalism, etc. "Mayday" is the distress call during military maneuvers. Mayday first came about thanks to the Chicago anarchists in 1886. They fought for human freedom and dignity and the eight hour working day. The leaders were arrested and murdered by the state (nice and "legal," of course!) The eloquence of August Spies from the scaffold, electrified the entire world and gave anarchist ideals tremendous impetus. Mayday honors their stirring example of principled, fearless idealism. It should be elevated into a major holiday and celebrated around the globe. It strikes at the very core of human aspirations and the desire for justice and freedom.

Next up is Memorial Day. This "honors" those men and women who fought and died in America's imperialist wars. These overwhelmingly working people dedicated themselves to these assigned tasks and were very successful. They gave up a tremendous part of their lives and many came home permanently damaged or dead. In years past, many U.S. soldiers fought with courage and tenacity. Nowadays, we mass murder almost exclusively with missiles which travel hundreds, even thousands of miles to their "targets." This minimizes American casualties as it maximizes the numbers of dead civilians, and insures their anonymity. The trauma of facing those we kill has been mainly fobbed off to local death squads we've trained. These U.S. fighting forces have been brainwashed into fighting these wars which have furthered their own oppression (and all other workers and peasants on earth.) This holiday is now marked by a vast sea of American flags, worthy of the Nuremberg rallies of the mid-'30's. This whole history of how we got to where we are through aggressive warfare, is mightily important and must be regularly thought about. It deserves to be

Further reading

Anarchy in Action
by Colin Ward

ABC of Anarchism
by Alexander Berkman

About Anarchism
by Nicholas Walter

A Structured Anarchism
by John Griffen

Available from

Freedom Press
In Angel Alley

84b Whitechapel High Street
London
E1 7QX

only those who fought under U.S. command. All those we helped to kill are not honored. Apparently the tens of millions of children, women, peasants, workers and soldiers who we so indiscriminantly and deliberately murdered, deserved their gruesome deaths. No thought should be wasted on their fates, according to U.S. propaganda. Keep that lid sealed on the truth!

Now, we come to Thanksgiving. This is a two-day deal. Gluttony and football signal the reverence accorded this event. We were so grateful to the native Indians who kept the initial "white" European pilgrims from starvation, that when we gained enough strength, cunning and guile, we systematically exterminated them! But only after they refused our generous offer of slavery. We had no choice!

Then, we come to the big finish. Christmas. SHEESH! What would our vapid consumer economy do without this gargantuan end of the fourth quarter, mass consumer credit card, buying frenzy??? Nothing could possibly be held in more reverence, obviously. Ultra commercialized and wrapped around a cuddly, fuzzy myth. Get the children hooked on thinking they need an ocean of shit throughout their lives and they'll be too busy pining for this crap to look at their lives, honestly. Hooboy! What a country!! Twinkle, twinkle, gone to far!!!

Finally! New Year's Eve. This is yet another time of excessive football, greasy animal food, lampshade wearing and gallons of alcohol. Must we go through all this again? Yikes!



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Oh, well. It's always a relaxing thing to sit and look through the newspaper.

Gay student dies from beating; suspects face murder charges

BY ROBERT W. BLACK
Associated Press Writer

LARAMIE, Wyo. — A gay college student who was lured from a campus hangout, beaten and lashed to a split-rail fence died Monday, and the two young men arrested in the attack now face murder charges that could bring the death penalty.

Matthew Shepard, 21, died at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colo., while on life support. His skull was so badly smashed that doctors could not perform surgery, hospital president Rulon Stacey said.

The University of Wyoming student had been in a coma since bicyclists found him in near-freezing temperatures Wednesday evening. They at first mistook him for a scarecrow.

The attack has spurred calls nationwide for hate-crimes legislation protecting gays. President Clinton pressed Congress to expand the federal hate-crimes law to cover offenses based on disability or sexual orientation.

"Americans will once again search their hearts and do what they can to reduce their own fear and anxiety and anger at people who are different," Clinton said. "And I hope that Congress will pass the hate-crime legislation."

Russell Arthur Henderson, 21, and Aaron James McKinney, 22, were originally charged with attempted murder, kidnapping and aggravated robbery, and jailed on \$100,000 bail each.

Police said that with Shepard's death, the charges against them will be upgraded to first-degree murder, which carries a possible death sentence.

Their girlfriends — Chasity Vera Pasley, 20, and Kristen Leann Price, 18 — were charged



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO
Matthew Shepard, 22, was beaten for being openly gay.

with being accessories after the fact. Police said the women helped dump bloody clothing and initially lied about their whereabouts.

Police said that robbery was the main motive but that Shepard apparently was chosen in part because he was gay. The 5-foot-2, 105-pound Shepard had been beaten twice in recent months, attacks he attributed to his homosexuality.

In a statement issued by the hospital, Shepard's mother, Judy Shepard, urged parents to hug their children and enjoy every day with them.

"He came into the world premature and left the world premature and they are most grateful for the time they had to spend with Matthew," the hospital president said.

On Monday, the giant rainbow flag that symbolizes the gay movement was lowered to half

staff in San Francisco's Castro District. College students rallied in downtown Denver to remember Shepard and denounce violence. And in Laramie, where the long-planned Gay Awareness Week began, some students wore yellow and green armbands to send a message of peace.

"It's a great loss to everyone, whether they knew him or not. He was an incredible individual," said Jim Osborn, a friend of Shepard's and chairman of Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgendered Association, a University of Wyoming student group.

"To beat somebody and tie them to a fencepost and beat them some more, obviously you're trying to make a statement," said Erik Abbott, a 25-year-old University of Wyoming student. "Obviously these people felt this was the feeling of the community as a whole, and it's not."

Authorities have withheld many details in the case, and a judge is considering a prosecutor's request to seal the records.

Police said the two men lured Shepard out of the Fireside bar late Tuesday or early Wednesday by telling him they were gay. The three of them got in McKinney's truck, where the beating began, police said.

Later, Shepard was tied up and pistol-whipped as he begged for his life, and he was robbed of his wallet and black patent leather shoes, police said. A .357-caliber Magnum used to beat Shepard was found at McKinney's home, police said.

McKinney's girlfriend, Price, and his father, Bill McKinney, told The Denver Post that the two men didn't set out to kill Shepard but wanted to get back at him for making passes at McKinney in front of his friends.

The New Triangular Slave Trade



Guard at the East Jersey State Prison



Editor's note: This article was written by Neelam Sharma using material submitted by Jallil Abdul Muntaqim, a political prisoner currently held in Eastern Correctional Facility Napanoch, NY and Donnie Kerness, associate director of the American Friends Service Committee in New Jersey, a prisoners' rights advocate for the past 20 years.

The U.S. representative to the United Nations recently expressed his disgust at a request that the American Government should "officially apologize" for the damage done to African Americans by the Triangular Slave Trade (the term applied to describe the trade in Africans); his reasoning was that since slavery was actually "legal" at the time no "crime" was in fact committed. Taking note of this line of argument, it is important to understand clearly that even as we are busy campaigning for reparations for past wrongs, a new form of slavery is being "legally" created.

The African slave trade of 16th - 18th century did not appear suddenly overnight; it grew over a period of time driven by the "economic interests" of merchants and businessmen; and it was sanctioned by their representatives in government. This is precisely the process that is unfolding today with the creation of a "prison industrial complex" on a scale never before seen. There are two very disturbing aspects of the growth in this "new industry": the contracting out of penal institutions to business interests, and the increasing use of

physical and psychological torture on prisoners as a form of "control."

The Growth of Private Prisons

Ten years ago there were just 5 privately run prisons in the country, housing a population of 2000. Today, 20 private firms run more than 100 prisons with about 62,000 beds. That is still less than 5 per cent, but the industry is expanding fast, with the number of private prison beds expected to grow to 360,000 during the next decade. Already 28 states have passed legislation making it legal for private contractors to run prisons; more are expected to follow suit. Companies like Goldman Sachs and Co., Prudential Insurance Co. of America, Smith Barney Shearson Inc., and Merrill Lynch and Co., are among those competing to underwrite prison construction with private, tax-exempt bonds (where no voter approval is required). Why such a scramble for these contracts? Consider the growth of Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), the industry leader whose stock

price has increased from \$8 a share in 1992 to about \$30 today, and whose revenue rose by 81% in 1995 alone. The Nashville-based CCA, which runs 46 penal institutions in 11 states, controls roughly half of the industry. It took ten years for the company to reach 10,000 beds; it is now growing by the same number every year.

The Triangle of Interest

On May 12 1994 the *Wall Street Journal* featured an article entitled: "Atakine Crime Fix - Triangle of Interest's Central Infrastructure To Fight Lawlessness. Critics see Jobs: Politicians see a Prosperous Future and Businessmen Cash In - The Cold War of the 90's." In other words, the media creates a climate of fear about rates of crime, politicians campaign on this issue demanding new legislation and get tough measures like "three strikes"; businesses step in to snap up the lucrative prison contracts. Of course it is precisely big business and their representatives in government who control the media.

This "Triangle of Interest" has set the stage for the resurrection of slavery in America, since this peculiar institution was never in fact abolished. From the time it was written, the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which is popularly known to have abolished "involuntary servitude" and "chattel slavery" of Africans, has had an exception clause: "except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." This clause has been consistently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, meaning that prisoners are to be considered no more than "slaves of the state."

A Social Environment That Creates Criminals

It was this same clause in the 13th Amendment that was used, after the emancipation of African slaves, to sentence Africans who were once slaves, to new forms of slavery. In a new book called *Prison Writing in 21st Century America*, the editor II. Bruce Franklin begins with an Autobiography of an Imprisoned Person. A brief extract from this essay, which was originally published in 1904, shows clearly how slavery was continued using the exception clause. "One of the usual ways of securing laborers for a large penance camp is for the proprietor to send out an agent to the little courts in the towns and villages, and where a nuan charged with some petty offenses has no friends or money the agent will urge him to plead guilty, with the understanding that the agent will pay his fine, and in that way save him from the disgrace of being sent to jail or the chain gang! F or this high favor the man must sign before hand a paper signifying his willingness to go to the farm and work out the amount of the fine imposed! Every year many convicts were brought to the Senator's camp." The writer, who to this day remains anonymous, goes on to explain that most of those "convicts" had been "set-up for the crimes" they were convicted of with the collusion of state officials, plantation owners and paid "agents" in the African community.

What is different about the situation existing today? High proportions of people of color are filling

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THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX & THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

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by Eve Goldberg and Linda Evans

Over 1.8 million people are currently behind bars in the US. This represents the highest per capita incarceration rate in the history of the world. In 1995 alone, 150 new U.S. prisons were built and filled.

This monumental commitment to lock up a sizeable percentage of the population is an integral part of the

globalization of capital. Several strands converge — the end of the Cold War, changing relations between labor and capital on an international scale, domestic economic decline, racism, the U.S. role as policeman of the world, and growth of the international drug economy — creating a booming prison/industrial complex. And the prison/industrial complex is rapidly becoming an essential component of the U.S. economy.

PRISONS ARE BIG BUSINESS

Like the military-industrial complex, the prison-industrial complex is an interweaving of private business and government interests. Its twofold purpose is profit and social control. Its public rationale is the fight against crime.

Not so long ago, communism was "the enemy" and communists were demonized as a way of justifying gargantuan military expenditures. Now, fear of crime and the demonization of criminals serve a similar ideological purpose: to justify the use of tax dollars for the repression and incarceration of a growing percentage of our population. The omnipresent media blitz about serial killers, missing children, and "random violence" feeds our fear. In reality, however, most of the "criminals" we lock up are poor people who commit nonviolent crimes out of economic need. Violence occurs in less than 14% of all reported crime, and injuries occur in just 3%. In California, the top three charges for those entering prison are: possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance for sale, and robbery. Violent crimes like murder, rape, manslaughter and kidnapping don't even make the top ten.

Like fear of communism during the Cold War, fear of crime is a great sales tool for a dubious product. As with the building and maintenance of weapons and

armies, the building and maintenance of prisons are big business. Investment houses, construction companies, architects, and support services such as food, medical, transportation and furniture, all stand to profit by prison expansion. A burgeoning "specialty item" industry sells fencing, handcuffs, drug detectors, protective vests, and other security devices to prisons.

As the Cold War winds down and the Crime War heats up, defense industry giants like Westinghouse are re-tooling and lobbying Washington for their share of the domestic law enforcement market. "Night Enforcer" goggles used in the Gulf War, electronic "Hot Wire" fencing ("so hot NATO chose it for high-risk installations"), and other equipment once used by the military, are now being marketed to the criminal justice system.

Communication companies like AT&T, Sprint, and MCI are getting into the act as well — gouging prisoners with exorbitant rates for phone calls, often six times the normal long distance charge. Smaller firms like Correctional Communications Corp., dedicated solely to the prison phone business, provide computerized prison phone systems— fully equipped for systematic surveillance. They win government contracts by offering to kick back some of the profits to the government agency awarding the contract. These companies are

reaping huge profits at the expense of prisoners and their families; prisoners are often effectively cut off from communication due to the excessive cost of phone calls.

One of the fastest growing sectors of the prison/industrial complex is private corrections companies. Investment firm Smith Barney is a part owner of a prison in Florida. American Express and General Electric have invested in private prison construction in Oklahoma and Tennessee. Correctional Corporation of America, one of the largest private prison owners, already operates internationally, with 48 facilities in 11 states, Puerto Rico, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Under contract by government to run jails and prisons, and paid a fixed sum per prisoner, the profit motive mandates that these firms operate as cheaply and efficiently as possible. This means lower wages for staff, no unions, and fewer services for prisoners. Private contracts also mean less public scrutiny. Prison owners are raking in billions by cutting corners which harm prisoners. Substandard diets, extreme overcrowding, and abuses by poorly trained personnel have all been documented and can be expected in these institutions which are unabashedly about making money.

Prisons are also a leading rural growth industry. With traditional agriculture being pushed aside by agribusiness, many rural American

communities are facing hard times. Economically depressed areas are falling over each other to secure a prison facility of their own. Prisons are seen as a source of jobs — in construction, local vendors and prison staff — as well as a source of tax revenues. An average prison has a staff of several hundred employees and an annual payroll of several million dollars.

Like any industry, the prison economy needs raw materials. In this case the raw materials are prisoners. The prison/industrial complex can grow only if more and more people are incarcerated for longer periods — even if crime rates drop. "Three Strikes" and mandatory minimums (harsh, fixed sentences without parole) are two examples of the legal superstructure quickly being put in place to guarantee that the prison population will grow and grow and grow.

LABOR AND THE FLIGHT OF CAPITAL

The growth of the prison/industrial complex is inextricably tied to the fortunes of labor. Ever since the onset of the Reagan-Bush years in 1980, workers in the US have been under siege. Aggressive union busting, corporate deregulation, and especially the flight of capital in search of cheaper labor markets, have been crucial factors in the downward plight of American workers.

The principle outrages of history have been committed by governments, while every advancement of human thought, every betterment of the human condition, has come about through the practices of voluntary cooperation and individual initiative. The principle of government, which is force, is opposed to the free exercise of our ability to think, act and cooperate.

All governments survive on theft and extortion, called taxation. All governments force their decrees on the people, and command obedience under threat of punishment.

Anarchism never relies on fear to accomplish anything because a person who is afraid is not free. Here's what Anarchists believe:

One wave of capital flight occurred in the 1970's. Manufacturing such as textiles in the Northeast moved south to South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama — non-union states where wages were low. During the 1980's, many more industries (steel, auto, etc.) closed up shop — moving on to Mexico, Brazil, or Taiwan where wages were a mere fraction of those in the U.S., and environmental, health and safety standards were much lower, allowing businesses to be "more competitive" — that is, more profitable at the expense of both the areas abandoned and the areas entered. Most seriously hurt by these plant closures and layoffs were African-Americans and other semiskilled workers in urban centers who lost their decent paying industrial jobs.

Into the gaping economic hole left by the exodus of jobs from U.S. cities has rushed another economy: the drug economy.

THE WAR ON DRUGS

The "War on Drugs," launched by President Reagan in the mid-eighties, has been fought on interlocking international and domestic fronts.

At the international level, the war on drugs has been both a cynical cover-up of U.S. government involvement in the drug trade, as well as justification for U.S. military intervention and control in the Third World.

Over the last 50 years, the primary avowed goal of U.S. foreign policy (and the military/industrial complex) has been "to fight communism" (and protect corporate interests). To this end, the U.S. government has, with regularity, formed strategic alliances with drug dealers throughout the world. At the conclusion of World War II, the OSS (precursor to the CIA) allied itself with heroin traders on the docks of Marseille in an effort to wrest power away from communist dock workers. During the Vietnam war, the CIA aided the heroin-producing Hmong tribesmen in the Golden Triangle area. In return for

their cooperation with the U.S. government's war against the Vietnamese NLF and other national liberation forces, the CIA flew local heroin out of Southeast Asia and into America. It's no accident that heroin addiction in the U.S. rose exponentially in the 1960's.

Nor is it an accident that cocaine began to proliferate in the US during the 1980's. Central America is the strategic midpoint for air travel between Colombia and the US. The Contra War against Sandinista Nicaragua, as well as the war against the national liberation forces in El Salvador, was largely about control of this critical area. When Congress cut off financial support for the Contras, Oliver North and Bill Casey found other ways to fund the Contra re-supply operations at Reagan and Bush's behest, in part through drug dealing. Planes loaded with arms for the Contras took-off from the southern US, offloaded their weapons on private landing strips in Honduras, then loaded up with cocaine for the return trip.

A 1996 expose by Gary Webb in the San Jose *Mercury News* documented CIA involvement in a Nicaraguan drug ring which poured thousands of kilos of cocaine into L.A.'s African-American neighborhoods in the 1980's. Drug boss Danilo Blandon, now an informant for the DEA, acknowledged under oath the drugs-for-weapons deals with the CIA-sponsored Contras. US military presence in Central and Latin America has not stopped drug traffic. But it has influenced aspects of the drug trade, and is a powerful force of social control in the region. US military intervention — whether in propping up dictators or squashing peasant uprisings — now operates under cover of the righteous "war against drugs and narco-terrorism," while the real narco-terrorists and narco-dictators operate with US protection.

In Mexico, for example, US military aid supposedly earmarked for the drug war is being used to arm Mexican troops in the

southern part of the country. The drug trade, however (production, transfer, and distribution points) is all in the north. The drug war money is being used primarily to fight against the Zapatista rebels in the southern state of Chiapas who are demanding land reform and economic policy changes which are diametrically opposed to the transnational corporate agenda.

In the Colombian jungles of Cartagena de Chaira, coca has become the only viable commercial crop. In 1996, 30,000 farmers blocked roads and airstrips to prevent crop spraying from aircraft. The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), one of the oldest guerrilla organizations in Latin America, held 60 government soldiers hostage for nine months demanding that the military leave the jungle, that social services be increased, and that alternative crops be made available to farmers. And given the notorious involvement of Colombia's highest officials with the powerful drug cartels, it is not surprising that most US "drug war" military aid actually goes to fighting the guerrillas.

One result of the international war on drugs has been the internationalization of the US prison population. For the most part, it's the low level "mules" carrying drugs into this country who are captured and incarcerated in ever-increasing numbers. At least 25% of inmates in the federal prison system today will be subject to deportation when their sentences are completed.

Here at home, the war on drugs has been a war on poor people. Particularly poor, urban, African-American men and women. It's well documented that police enforcement of the new, harsh drug laws have been focused on low-level dealers in communities of color. Arrests of African-Americans have been about five times higher than arrests of whites, although whites and African-Americans use drugs at about the same rate. And, African-Americans have been imprisoned in numbers even more

disproportionate than their relative arrest rates. It is estimated that in 1994, on any given day, one out of every 128 US adults was incarcerated, while one out of every 17 African-American adult males was incarcerated.

The differential in sentencing for powder and crack cocaine is one glaring example of institutionalized racism. About 90% of crack arrests are of African-Americans, while 75% of powder cocaine arrests are of whites. Under federal law, it takes only five grams of crack cocaine to trigger a five-year mandatory minimum sentence. But it takes 500 grams of powder cocaine — 100 times as much — to trigger this same sentence. This flagrant injustice was highlighted by a 1996 nationwide federal prison rebellion when Congress refused to enact changes in sentencing laws that would equalize penalties.

Statistics show that police repression and mass incarceration are not curbing the drug trade. Dealers are forced to move, turf is reshuffled, already vulnerable families are broken up. But the demand for drugs still exists, as do huge profits for high-level dealers in this fifty billion-dollar international industry.

From one point of view, the war on drugs could actually be seen as a pre-emptive strike. The state's repressive apparatus working overtime. Put poor people away before they get angry. Incarcerate those at the bottom, the helpless, the hopeless, before they demand change. What drugs don't damage — in terms of intact communities, the ability to take action, to organize — the war on drugs and mass imprisonment aims to destroy.

The crack down on drugs has not stopped drug use on the streets or in the prisons. But it has taken thousands of unemployed (and potentially angry and rebellious) young men and women off the streets. And it has created a mushrooming prison population.

Anarchism

It's not terrorism. The agent of the government — the policeman who uses force, including armed force, to scare people into obedience — is the terrorist. Governments threaten to punish any man or woman who defies state power, and therefore the state really amounts to an institution of terror.

It's not a form of Statism. Anarchists don't want to impose their value system on anyone else

Government is an unnecessary evil. Human beings, when accustomed to taking responsibility for their own behaviour, can cooperate on a basis of mutual trust and helpfulness.

PRISON LABOR

An American worker who once upon a time made \$8 an hour, loses his job when the company relocates to Thailand where workers are paid only \$2 a day. Unemployed, and alienated from a society indifferent to his needs, he becomes involved in the drug economy or some other outlawed means of survival. He is arrested, put in prison, and put to work. His new salary: 22 cents/hour.

From worker to unemployed to criminal to convict laborer, the cycle has come full circle. And the only victor is big business.

For private business, prison labor is like a pot of gold. No strikes. No union organizing. No unemployment insurance or workers' compensation to pay. No language or shipping problem, as in a foreign country. New leviathan prisons are being built with thousands of eerie acres of factories inside the walls. Prisoners do data entry for Chevron, make telephone reservations for TWA, raise hogs, shovel manure, make circuit boards, limousines, waterbeds, and even lingerie for Victoria's Secret. All at a fraction of the cost of "free labor."

Prisoners can be forced to work for pennies because they have no rights. Even the 14th Amendment to the Constitution which abolished slavery, excludes prisoners from its protections.

And, more and more, prisons are charging inmates for basic necessities, from medical care, to toilet paper, to use of the law library. Many states are now charging room and board. Berks County prison in PA is charging inmates \$10 per day to be there. California has similar legislation pending. So, while government cannot (yet) actually require inmates to work at private industry jobs for less than minimum wage, they are forced to by necessity.

Some prison enterprises are state run. Inmates working at UNICOR (the federal prison industry corporation) make recycled

furniture and work 40 hours a week for about \$40 per month. The Oregon Prison Industries produces a line of "Prison Blues" blue jeans. An ad in their catalogue shows a handsome prison inmate saying, "I say we should make bell-bottoms. They say I've been in here too long."

Bizarre, but true.

Prison industries are often directly competing with private industry. Small furniture manufacturers around the country complain that they are being driven out of business by UNICOR, which pays 23 cents an hour and has the inside track on government contracts. In another case, US Technologies sold its electronics plant in Austin, Texas, leaving its 150 workers unemployed. Six week later, the electronics plant reopened in a nearby prison.

WELCOME TO THE NEW WORLD ORDER

The proliferation of prisons in the US is one piece of a puzzle called the globalization of capital.

Since the end of the Cold War, capitalism has gone on an international business offensive. No longer impeded by an alternative nominally-socialist economy or by the threat of national liberation movements supported by the Soviet Union or China, transnational corporations see the world as their oyster. Agencies such as the World Trade Organization, World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, bolstered by agreements like NAFTA and GATT are putting more and more power into the hands of transnational corporations by putting the squeeze on national governments. The primary mechanism of control is debt. For decades, developing countries have depended on foreign loans, resulting in increasing vulnerability to the transnational corporate strategy for the global economy. Access to international credit and aid is given only if governments agree to certain conditions known as "structural adjustment."

In a nutshell, structural adjustment requires cuts in social services, privatization of state-run industry, repeal of agreements with labor about working conditions and minimum wage, conversion of multi-use farm lands into cash crop agriculture for export, and the dismantling of trade laws which protect local economies. Under structural adjustment, police and military expenditures are the only government spending that is encouraged. The sovereignty of nations is compromised when, as in the case of Vietnam, trade sanctions are threatened unless the government allows Camel cigarettes to litter the countryside with billboards, or promises to spend millions in the US-orchestrated crackdown on drugs.

The basic transnational corporate philosophy is this: the world is a single market; natural resources are to be exploited; people are consumers; anything which hinders profit is to be routed out and destroyed. The results of this philosophy in action are that while economies are growing, so is poverty, so is ecological destruction, so are sweatshops and child labor. Across the globe, wages are plummeting, indigenous people are being forced off their lands, rivers are becoming industrial dumping grounds, and forests are being obliterated. Massive regional starvation and "World Bank riots" are becoming more frequent throughout the Third World.

All over the world, more and more people are being forced into illegal activity for their own survival as traditional cultures and social structures are destroyed. Inevitably, crime and imprisonment rates are on the rise. And the US law enforcement establishment is in the forefront, domestically and internationally, in providing state-of-the-art repression.

Within the US, structural adjustment (sometimes known as either the Contract With America or Clintonomics) takes the form of welfare and social service cuts, continued massive military

spending, and skyrocketing prison spending. Walk through any poor urban neighborhood: school systems are crumbling, after-school programs, libraries, parks and drug treatment centers are closed. But you will see more police stations and more cops. Often, the only "social service" available to poor young people is jail.

The dismantling of social programs, and the growing dominance of the right-wing agenda in US politics has been made possible, at least in part, by the successful repression of the civil rights and liberation movements of the 1960's and '70's. Many of the leaders — Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Fred Hampton, and many others — were assassinated. Others, like Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt), Leonard Peltier, and Mumia Abu-Jamal, have been locked up. Over 150 political leaders from the black liberation struggle, the Puerto Rican independence movement, and other resistance efforts are still in prison. Many are serving sentences ranging from 40 to 90 or more years. Oppressed communities have been robbed of vital radical political leadership which might have led an opposition movement. We are reaping the results.

The number of people in US prisons has more than tripled in the past 17 years, from 500,000 in 1980 to 1.8 million in 1997. Today, more than five million people are behind bars, on parole, probation, or under other supervision by the criminal justice system. The state of California now spends more on prisons than on higher education, and over the past decade has built 19 prisons and only one branch university.

Add to this, the fact that increasing numbers of women are being locked up. Between 1980 and 1994, the number of women in prison increased five-fold. Many of these women are mothers, leaving future generations growing up in foster homes or on the streets.

Welcome to the New World Order.

324 inmates in Colombia flee prison

Guerrillas overpower guards

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

Prisons are not reducing crime. But they are fracturing already vulnerable families and communities.

Poor people of color are being locked up in grossly disproportionate numbers, primarily for non-violent crimes. But Americans do not feel safer.

As "criminals" become scapegoats for our floundering economy and our deteriorating social structure, even the pretense of rehabilitation is quickly disappearing from our penal philosophy. After all: rehabilitate for what? To go back into an economy which has no jobs? To go back into a community which has no hope? As education and other prison programs — even physical exercise — are cut back, or in most cases eliminated altogether, prisons are becoming vast, over-crowded, holding tanks. Or worse: factories behind bars.

And, prison labor is undercutting wages, something which hurts all working and poor Americans. It's a situation which can only occur because organized labor is weak, divided by racism and chauvinism, and has not kept step with organized capital.

While capital has globalized, labor has not. While the trans-nationals truly are fashioning our planet into a global market, there is still little communication or cooperation between workers around the world. Only an internationally linked labor movement can

effectively challenge the power of the transnational corporations.

There have been some wonderful, shining instances of international worker solidarity. In the early 1980's, JM workers in South Africa walked out in support of striking JM workers in New Jersey. Recently, longshore workers in Denmark, Spain, Sweden and several other countries closed down ports around the world in solidarity with striking Liverpool dockers. The company was forced to negotiate. When Renault closed its plant in Belgium, 100,000 demonstrated in Brussels, pressuring the French and Belgium governments to condemn the plant closure and compel its reopening.

Here in the US, there is a glimmer of hope as the AFL-CIO has voted in some new, more progressive leadership. We'll see how that shapes up, and whether the last 50 years of anti-communist, pro-establishment bread-and-butter American unionism is really a thing of the past.

What is certain is that resistance to the transnational corporate agenda is growing around the globe:

- In 1996, the people of Bougainville, a small New Guinea island, organized a secessionist rebellion, protesting the dislocations and ecological destruction caused by corporate mining on the island. When the government hired mercenaries from South Africa to train local troops in counterinsurgency warfare, the army rebelled, threw

out the mercenaries, and deposed the Prime Minister.

- A one day general strike shut down Haiti in January 1997. Strikers demanded the suspension of negotiations between the Prime Minister and the International Monetary Fund/World Bank. They protested the austerity measures imposed by the IMF and WB which would mean laying off 7,000 government workers and the privatization of the electric and telephone companies.

- In Nigeria, the Ogoni people conducted a protracted eight year struggle against Shell Oil. Acid rain, and hundreds of oil spills and gas flares were turning the once fertile countryside into a near wasteland. Their peaceful demonstrations, election boycotts, and pleas for international solidarity were met with violent government repression and the eventual execution of Ogoni writer-leader Ken Saro-Wiwa.

- In France, a month-long general strike united millions of workers who protested privatization, a government worker pay freeze, and cutbacks in social services. Telephone, airline, power, postal, education, health care and metal workers all joined together, bringing business to a standstill. The right-wing Chirac government was forced to make minor concessions before being voted out for a new 'socialist' administration.

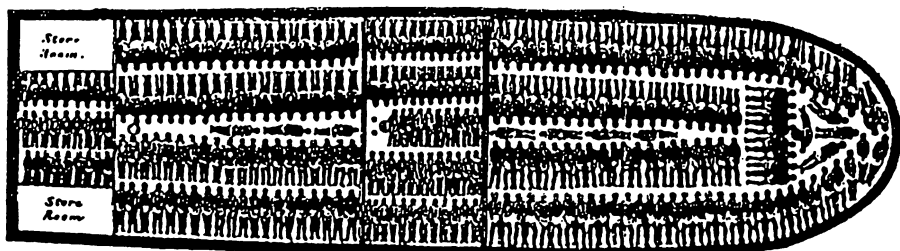
- At the Oak Park Heights Correctional Facility in Minnesota, 150 prisoners went on strike in

March 1997, demanding to be paid the minimum wage. Although they lost a litigation battle to attain this right, their strike gained attention and support from several local labor unions.

Just as the prison/industrial complex is becoming increasingly central to the growth of the US economy, prisoners are a crucial part of building effective opposition to the transnational corporate agenda. Because of their enforced invisibility, powerlessness, and isolation, it's far too common for prisoners to be left out of the equation of international solidarity. Yet, opposing the expansion of the prison/industrial complex, and supporting the rights and basic humanity of prisoners, may be the only way we can stave off the consolidation of a police state that represses us all, where you or a friend or family member may yourself end up behind bars.

Clearly, the only alternative that will match the power of global of capital is an internationalization of human solidarity. Because truly, we are all in this together.

"International solidarity is not an act of charity. It is an act of unity between allies fighting on different terrains toward the same objective. The foremost of these objectives is to aid the development of humanity to the highest level possible." — Samora Machel (1933-1986), leader of FRELIMO, and first President of Mozambique.



The lower deck of a slave ship, in a 19th century lithograph; the slaves were packed so tightly they could breathe only with difficulty, according to a doctor of the time.

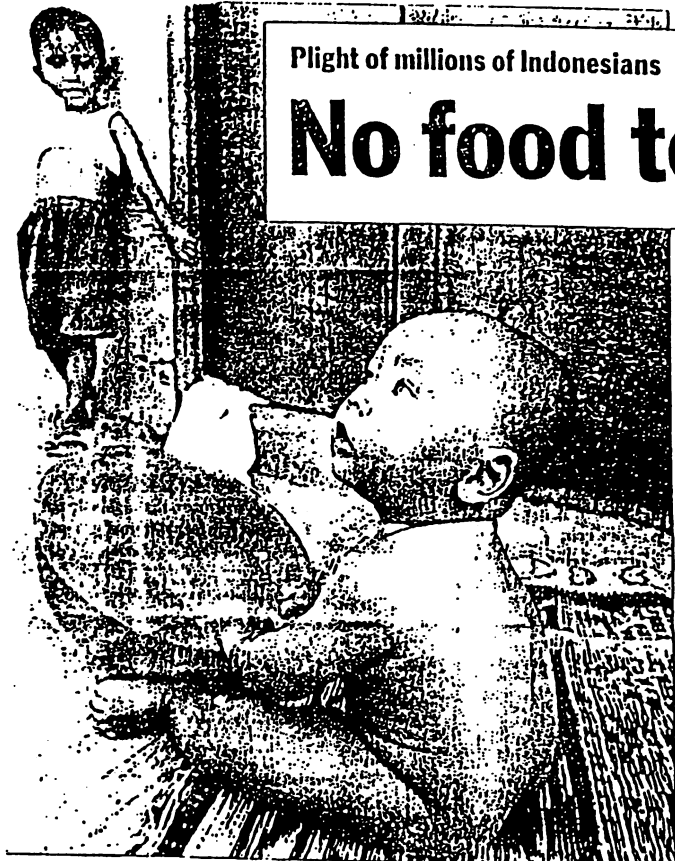
**SUPPORT
THE PRISONERS
DEMOLISH
THE PRISONS**



**RAZE THE
WALLS!**

Plight of millions of Indonesians

No food today



WHERE'S MY DINNER?

THIS toddler's rice bowl is empty - just like that of millions of other Indonesians

The price of rice, a staple food, has skyrocketed beyond the reach of many poor Indonesians - from about 1,000 rupiah (20 cents) a kg only this year to as much as 4,000 and 5,000 rupiah a kg.

Narman, a 25-year-old man living in a Jakarta garbage dump, said, "One litre of rice - 2,700 rupiah. It used to be half the price but now, we eat rice only once a day."

Indonesians officials say that although there is enough rice in the country, a poor infrastructure, corruption and action by speculators have hampered supplies and increased prices. Prices of other essential goods have also soared.

This, and the worsening economic situation, have led to renewed rioting and looting. Over the past few days, mobs have ransacked rice mills and fields, shrimp ponds, onion fields and teak forests across the country.

SHOOT LOOTERS

In the densely populated province of East Java, the police chief has ordered that looters be shot on sight.

"The order to shoot still has to follow existing procedure, and only executed when warning shots were ignored," said East Java police chief, Major General M Dayat, as quoted by the Kompas daily.

"The bullets will not be rubber-coated bullets, but live ammunition."

A government official said that 17 million Indonesians are facing food shortages. The government is working with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank to bring down the price of rice. Its plans include providing rice at heavily subsidised prices to some 7.5 million poor families by next month.

M. Source: Wire services.

End Sanctions Against Iraq!

Contact **VOICES IN THE WILDERNESS:**
a campaign to end the UN/US sanctions against Iraq
at (773)784-8065

The death of one Iraqi child attributable to economic sanctions is one death too many. Unfortunately, we are faced with thousands."

- Denis Halliday, former director of the UN humanitarian mission in Iraq, resigned in protest of economic sanctions

State of Siege: Year Eight

Is She Our Enemy?



P.S. Erik Gustafson, who traveled to Iraq with VICE, has started an education and outreach center. For more information, contact Education for Peace in Iraq Center (EPIC) at 747 10th St. SE #2, Washington, DC 20003 (202)543-6176

Remembering Lynn "Spit" Newborn and Daniel Shersty



Lynn Newborn

***Las Vegas
Police:
Drive-by
Murder***



James Sharkey with Richard Water holding a photo of Gomer

**LAS VEGAS ANTI-RACIST SKINHEADS
AMBUSHED BY NAZIS, JULY 4th, 1998**

Anti-Racist Youth Murdered in Las Vegas

Revolutionary Worker #969, August 16, 1998

*We'll never forget Spit and Dan,
Killed in the desert by fascist hands*

Lynn "Spit" Newborn grew up Black in Las Vegas. An active supporter of the Las Vegas Chapter of Anti-Racist Action (ARA), Spit was known and loved in the Las Vegas youth scene for standing up against the Nazis who prey on the anti-racist youth. His friend, Daniel Shersty, a white airman at Nellis Air Force Base--was also a supporter of the Las Vegas chapter of Anti-Racist Action, and together they ran with the Unity Skins, an anti-racist skinhead group. On the July 4 weekend the two friends were found dead in the desert--murdered execution-style. ARA members nationally suspect that the two were set up and murdered by Nazi skinheads--known as "boneheads" in the anti-racist skinhead scene. The police have not come up with any answers and the role of the authorities in the whole affair remains unclear. ARA has called for a protest in Las Vegas against the Nazis on August 29.

Members of ARA nationally are grieving for their murdered comrades, and they have been trying to piece together the story of how Spit and Dan were murdered. An ARA member in Columbus, Ohio, talked to the *RW* about the two men and what ARA members have learned so far about the murder.

"The chapter of ARA had opened in March. It was a young chapter and a lot of the kids involved were anti-racist skins--but by no means not all of them. There were like punks--counter culturally nonaligned people involved. They had tried to organize a group there before called Anti-Racist Movement (A.R.M.), which they started a year ago. But it kind of fell apart because they didn't have a lot of political experience. Then they contacted us and they got affiliated and we started helping them out with organizing.

"One of the most vocal members of both groups...was this guy named Spit, Lynn Newborn. He's 25 and Black. He made his living as a body piercer. Dan Shersty was 19 and he was in the Air Force. He was also a skinhead and an airman assigned to duty at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada for the past couple of years. He was gonna serve out his tour there. He didn't hang out on base a lot--he hung out on the scene in Vegas a lot. He made friends in the local punk and skin community. These guys were also part of a skinhead only group called Las Vegas Unity Skins."

July 3 was the last time Spit and Dan were seen alive: "Two skinhead girls came into Spit's work. It wasn't his shop--three piercers worked there. He's not the owner but the owner says that he's the best employee he ever had and loved the guy to death. Spit was an outgoing and very well-loved guy and had a lot of personality.

"So these girls come in--and there had been escalating confrontations between our people and these racists--and one of them came in and got a piercing in her navel and then asked if he wanted to go to a party tonight, basically asking him out on a date. And he asks if he can bring his friend and then she brings a friend and she said sure. So he went back to the piercing shop at midnight."

A message was found on the answering machine at the shop where Spit worked--the voice of a young woman inviting him to meet her Friday night July 3.

"Spit and Dan were last seen when they left to go meet these girls. Dan was found the next day right by his car, shot and beaten and then Spit was found two days later around 150 yards from the car totally riddled with bullets. The car was way way out in the desert. So we don't know how they were gotten out into the desert but Dan was found right next to his car. When the police found Dan, they didn't find Spit for two days. I don't know why it took them two days to find him."

A Fighter for the People

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"Spit's funeral was huge--there were like 400 people there. Not everybody fit inside the funeral home. He was really really well-loved. The pastor said that he had never officiated a funeral that big. The funeral home was next to an airport, with planes flying overhead, with mid-day heat in the desert in Las Vegas, and it was during the heat wave when it was 115 degrees--and everybody stayed to the end. It was really moving and a lot of people got up and said what Spit meant to them.

"Spit was kind of sarcastic--he would wear a black flight jacket and black jeans in 100 degree weather and walk up to you and say, 'Hot enough for you yet?' Spit had been a target of the Nazis for years. He was famous--he was the big anti-racist skinhead. He was the oldest one--he wasn't necessarily a leader in the military sense but everybody looked up to him on a lot of different levels. He was the kind of guy you'd loan your last two dollars to or young kids would go to him for advice and reinforcement. He was everybody's older brother. And the Nazi skinheads hated him for it and they hated him for being very anti-racist. Spit in a way didn't understand racism and why people just couldn't be cool and get along. For years he had been a symbol--this Black guy in boots and braces (suspenders)--what skinheads wear.

"It was really hard on his father cuz his father had lost another son to AIDS that year and his wife the year before to cancer. The father said he didn't know his son was so involved in politics and whatnot and was so glad that all these people were there. On top of his family, there were 400 people from the youth scene there. Everybody from the punk and ska community showed up, everybody. His father was really happy that people came out and that there were representatives from Columbus and Ann Arbor from ARA. He's really happy that we're gonna fight back. He wants to help us."

Execution in the Desert

The killing of Spit and Dan had all the earmarks of an execution-style murder. According to police Dan was badly beaten before being killed with a single shot to the side as he lay prone. According to press accounts, police speculate that Spit, who was riddled with bullets, may have been murdered attempting to escape.

"The murder happened on July 4. Dan's body was taken back by his family to Florida and we haven't had any contact with his family.

"First, the police said it must be drug-related, but neither of them did drugs. Then it was 'Spit shot Dan,' but, no, they were best friends. Then they came to realize it had to be Nazis. They keep claiming they are making progress but won't tell us what their progress is. They've been trying to tell us to shut up about it cause 'it would make the bad guys go underground.'... They know that they're at least looking for two skinhead girls. They've made no arrests and we have no reports of the police questioning anybody. They keep saying we're making progress, we're making progress, but it's been a month and what is the substance of this progress?"

Class Struggle in Las Vegas

"In the Nazi scene, Las Vegas is like a way station between southern California and Arizona. There are about 300 neo-Nazis in Las Vegas. These 300 Nazi youth are quite visible. The Nazis there are hooked into the Orange County Nazis of southern California. So there is cross over and a fair amount of traveling in between these metropolitan areas. And Vegas is the kind of town where people don't ask a lot of questions and everybody is only staying for a little while. But there's a lot of positive, progressive aspects to struggle going on in Las Vegas. In the Hispanic community there has been a lot of struggle and a lot of union organizing, especially in the building trades and hotel workers union there.... There was a long strike against one hotel that was successful."

Orange County made frequent trips to Las Vegas and were known to be recruiting in the junior high schools. Tensions have been escalating between the Nazi skinheads and the anti-racist youth and the Nazi boneheads have perpetrated a series of vicious attacks.

"There had been a round of attacks by the Nazis prior to the murder of Spit and Dan. One anti-racist skin had been beaten pretty badly--physical therapy is starting to help him recover now. He's Latino and has a twin brother. He's pretty outspoken and if you're a skinhead of color that's a pretty big statement right there. That's who the Nazis target first."

According to a report on the web by Tom Burghardt, "Three weeks prior to the murders, Nevada State Senator Mike Schneider (D--Las Vegas) reported that after he heard gunshots in his neighborhood, he drove three blocks to investigate....When he arrived on the scene he saw an apartment riddled with bullet holes..." Some young Black guys at the apartment said it was [Nazi] skinheads who followed one youth home from a pizza place and started firing at them from a car," Schneider told the *Las Vegas Review Journal*. The politician seemed surprised when the intended victims of a racist drive-by started firing back at their assailants."

Our Columbus ARA contact talked about reactionary logic behind the Nazi attacks and the Los Angeles--Las Vegas connection: "First they want to own the skinhead scene. Then they want to destroy the punk scene. After that then there's no street-level opposition to them. If they get us out of the way then it's open season on everybody else in town. They're pretty systematic. First, they want to get rid of any anti-racist skinheads who they see as their most militant opposition, their most sworn enemies.

"That's why ARA started in the '80s--to stop the Nazi attacks on the punk scene in Minneapolis. We grew as a political organization out of a street-level self-defense organization. There have been a number of other attacks like drive-by seig heilings--there's been a history of tension. This had gone on before people started affiliating with us, but once people started organizing, they decided in the Nazi movement that they wanted to fight to keep us out of Las Vegas. They have connections with exceedingly violent factions--southern California Nazis are nothing to sneeze at. Thirty of them got arrested for planning to blow up the NAACP headquarters in L.A. and had stockpiled guns. This is where Tom Metzger gets a lot of his strength from. The whole west coast axis draws a lot of strength from Los Angeles area Nazis."

"The Las Vegas ARA crew is the most multinational skinhead group I've ever seen, and the majority of the members are people of color. What got them killed is the fact that they're Black and white skinheads who were friends, who were together, who were vocal anti-racists. They would have been killed regardless of their involvement in ARA. They were involved in ARA and we will support our people.

"On August 29, we are going to meet in this park that has seen some racist graffiti in it before. We are going to have a rally followed by a march through a neighborhood where Nazis are known to live. We're going to put up 'Unwanted' flyers with pictures of prominent local Nazis and quotes from leaders of the groups that they are affiliated with so that all their neighbors know that they are living next door to a violent white supremacist. I want to make sure that when they go to the supermarket people look up and go, 'Oh my god, he's here!' and scoop up their kids and hold them closer. I want to shut these guys down and make it zero potential for organizing.

"I don't know how to make somebody not be a Nazi but I know how to make it so there won't be any new Nazis there. We want to make their lives as unglamorous as possible really quick and we've been putting forward a huge effort. We're coming from all over the country, from the midwest, the north and the south. We've invited every antifascist group to come. It could have been anybody in any group. This is the time for the whole movement to come together and work on this."

Vatican Rescinds 'Blessed' Status Of World's Meek

'Screw The Meek,' Says Pope

VATICAN CITY—In a historic reversal of its nearly 2,000-year-old pro-meek stance, the Catholic Church announced Tuesday that it is permanently rescinding the traditional "blessed" status of the world's meek.

"Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ once said, 'Blessed are the meek,'" said Pope John Paul II in a papal bull read before the College of Cardinals. "However, there has always been a tacit understanding between the Church and the meek that this 'blessed' status was conditional upon their inheritance of the earth, an event which seems unlikely to happen anytime in the foreseeable future. Our relationship, therefore, must be terminated."

"Screw the meek," the pope added.

Citing "two millennia of inaction and non-achievement" by the world's impoverished and downtrodden, the pope contended that the meek's historic inability to improve their worldly status constituted "bad faith" on their part.

"Twenty centuries should have been more than enough time for them to inherit the earth," the Supreme Pontiff said. "For years, the Catholic Church has made every effort to help them, but at some point, enough is enough. We are patient, but we are not saints."

Catholic leaders around the world were vocal in their support of the Pope.

see MEEK on page 7

Right: Pope John Paul II



MEEK from page 1

"The meek have abused their blessed status for far too long now," said Bernard Law, Archbishop of Boston. "From the Renaissance to the Industrial Revolution to the current Global Information Age, the meek have always somehow managed to sit back and do nothing while others worked hard to make advances and improve their lives. They have collected the Catholic Church's spiritual welfare checks for long enough."

"Everything about the meek, from their simple garments to their quiet demeanor to their utter lack of can-do spirit, goes against Church philosophy," Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte of Montreal said. "Sitting back and expecting the Lord to provide is not the type of behavior for which the Church should be rewarding its followers."

The change in policy toward the meek is also rooted in financial considerations. According to Vatican statistics, though more than 80 percent of the world's Catholics live below the poverty line, the Catholic Church receives less than 2 percent of its annual earnings of \$3.95 billion from such people.

The meek's blessed status was originally bestowed upon them by Jesus Christ himself, but there is enough latitude in His gospel and teachings to allow us discretion in this manner," the

pope said, "especially in light of the financial goals of the Church as it enters the 21st century. From this day forward, the Church position shall be, 'Blessed are the affluent, for they have indeed inherited the Earth.'"

In an effort to move away from its traditional meek core demographic and attract more upscale worshippers, Vatican officials announced a number of changes for the Gospels. Among them: Christ shall be said to have been born in a rustic-but-spacious birthing suite and not a manger, with the amount of gold and frankincense bestowed upon Him by the wise men quadrupled and the amount of myrrh halved; it shall henceforth be as easy for a rich man to enter Heaven as it is for a camel to pass through a heated three-car garage; and the episode between Christ and

**Said the pope:
"From this day
forward, the Church
position shall be,
'Blessed are the
affluent, for they
have indeed inherited
the Earth.'"**

the moneylenders in the temple shall from now on be interpreted as an interecine argument over appropriately aggressive fundraising tactics.

According to Holy See spokesperson Salvatore Vittorio, a new Catholic Church payment plan has been established, with blessedness and God's everlasting love free of charge once a nominal baptism/membership fee has been paid. For an additional fee, Catholics can become "Gold Circle" members of the Church, entitling them to such



Above: Some of the world's estimated 3.4 billion meek.

perks as forgiveness, sainthood and special priority seating at the right hand of the Father upon death.

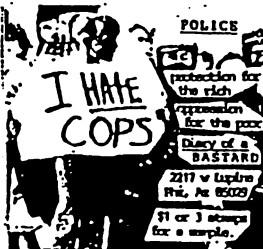
"We do not wish the Church to become completely exclusionary," Vittorio said. "If any of the former meek wish to change their ways, they may certainly do so. But it won't be the free ride they got before. I can promise you that."

"The Lord will provide, of course," the pope said. "But He also helps those who help themselves, if you know what I mean."

CULTURELESS and SOULLESS

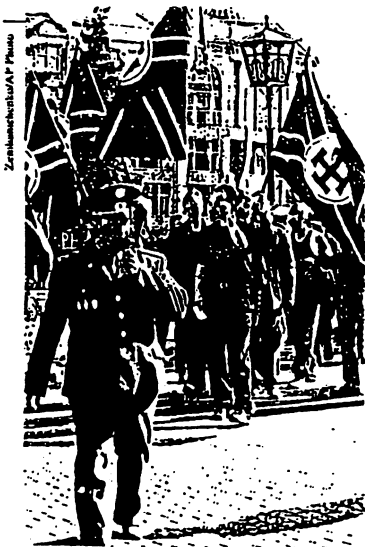
50

Illiterate scrawls all over toilet stalls
Signify Capitalism's Honky can hardly work.
Stupid thoughts etched with the crudest handcraft
Sear into the minds of the youngest occupants.
Cowards boast they hate the Blacks,
Fear all Women - are petrified by Gays.
You see, it is everything that Whiteboy lacks.
His life is valueless in every way.
He has no culture. He has no soul.
He's got no future. He's got no goals.
He's on a rat's treadmill, prepared for him.
Paunchy billionaires have set him up,
And his chance for meaning is none and slim.
As he slinks through life, so bitterly...
They tell us, "Racism's gone! It's the 'nineties!"
"Communism"'s dead. We can all rejoice now...
People have to dig their childrens' graves much faster.
The lies are thicker. Blood pours out of radios.
"Let's incinerate hundreds of thousands of people! - and celebrate!"
Our brains are rancid with such thoughts.
But all we care about is the crap we've bought.
Today, tomorrow, the Next Day, A Thousands Years from now...
"Yeah, those Nazis were incredibly evil, all right.
But just look at the depravity of American 'Might!'"



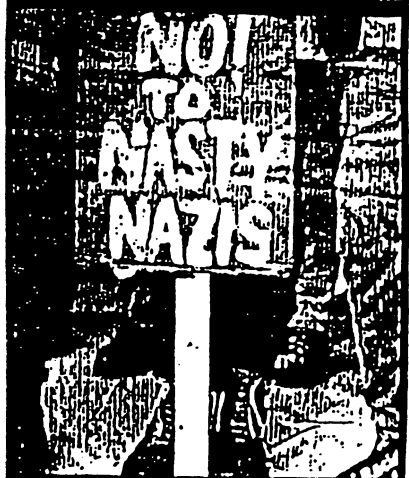
Don't "Act White!"

Plain White bread has no nutrition
"White lies" bring on mass confusion
White hope" is ripe for knockout
White unions are worker lockout
Pale white skin is apt to burn
"All white schools" cannot learn
"White Man's Burden" justifies genocide
A book of white pages, has nothing inside
White rock has a mighty hollow ring
And a whiteout obliterates everything
White milk has no real flavor
And a "white" life cannot be savored
"White power" means death and lies
Destroy your whiteness. cleanse your insides



Skinsheads on the march: Smelling blood.

MAKE THE TWIN CITIES A NAZI-FREE ZONE



GET INVOLVED TO SHUT 'EM DOWN!

Anti-Racist Action

612-649-4586

P.O. BOX 80239
MPLS, MN 55408



*Maybe there are some interesting letters in
the mail!*

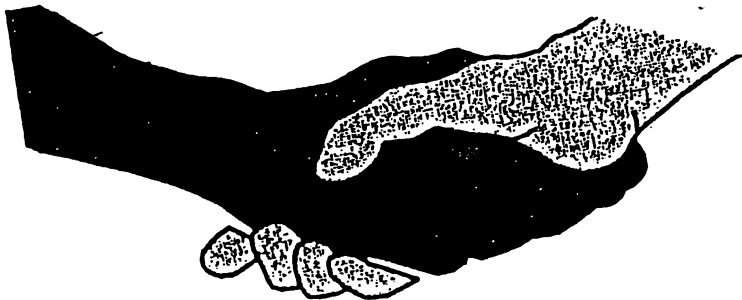
Anthony Rayson
27009 S. Egyptian Trail
Honee, IL 60449

28 August 1998

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your eloquent pamphlet. I can readily accept that (a) the power structure in this country is designed to keep blacks in their place, deny them normal areas of growth, prosperity, status and success and (b) that white liberals are just as damaging to black people as their right wing enemies, though they would all be indignant to be told that, that Tom Brokaw and his ilk are a pack of hypocrites, etc. etc. ---but what of it? White people find the presence of blacks repulsive. They simply don't want them around. Blacks have an inferior culture, revert to inately stupid behavior in a very rapid recidivism. Close association with them is rightly considered demeaning and a diminution of white's own lives. This isn't just the view of "trailer trash," or "rednecks," or "KKK scum," as you prefer to believe, but is shared by college professors, artists, gentle poets and benign ordinary folk. They will finally voice such attitudes when they can overcome their own fears of being honest and the intimidation of people like yourself. Because of your extreme neuroses and evident self-hatred, you are unable to accept this, and prefer to rage at your fellow caucasoids. I encounter self-hating whites frequently. Your's is a mental condition that black people swiftly perceive and are happy to exploit. Nothing will change white people's attitudes. There is a visceral disgust for blacks. Consequently, there is no long term solution or resolution to the black dilemma. They will never be accepted. They must accept this and so must you.

I am not signing this most illuminating missive or giving my address because you strike me in your writing as a belligerent, obnoxious prick, just the type to strike back by assorted forms of mischief and fuckwork. I will not give you the opportunity. Of course, you will state to all you self-righteous friends that I didn't have the guts to sign it. Say what you will.



Anthony,

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My parents won't let me participate in ARA. Here's their reasons why. They read the ARA news thing and it had stuff that was pro-gay, pro-abortion & pro-drug. It's mostly my dad. He especially hates gay people because (he was just telling me this today) in the bible, god says that some gay guy gets destroyed by god or something like that & then it says that all gays should be executed.

So, I'm like, "Well then, why does it say 'Thou shalt not kill?'" And he's like, "Well, it's an exception because gay people are rebelling against god." And I'm thinking, "Oh! Now I'm really convinced! Yeah, right!"

What can you do when your dad is that closed-minded? And you wanna know something that cracks me up? While my dad hates gay people with a passion, his sister is gay! See, my family is really Christian and stuff, so all of them don't notice she's gay cuz they don't want to. The only people who notice are me and my bros. & cousins. It's so obvious. They just act like nothing because if they found out she was gay, they'd have to hate her, cuz they hate all gays. But they love her, so there would be a crisis for them choosing whether or not they should still love her. Well, at least that's what I think.

Anyways, I figured out what I'm going to do. I'm going to start my own group to fight racism, help homeless, etc. We will work with ARA but I just won't tell my parents. I already have some plans...

Oh yeah, we are gonna try to put on some shows, raise money to send to various charities. If you can think of any charities you think we should raise money for, that we might not know about, could you let me know?

Thankyou, Love

Good day, sir! Soon I shall be sending you actual "snail" mail... 54
When I saw that report about the pepper gas, I figured I'd forward it to you! I saw video a few months ago of where California cops did that to protestors already in custody at the police station-- they taped it cuz they thought it would be a fun memory. Sheesh! If we must have cops, then at least we should make sure they aren't law and order types, given how they behave towards to unconvicted accused and those they wish had just broken laws (like Joffe Stewart). As usual it gave me all these great ideas I haven't the balls to carry out myself, like organizing pickets of police cars. They wouldn't be able to do much oppressing with people cycling the car all the time!

Even in the mainstream sanitized media there's ample evidence of the coming fascist state, such as the proposed law to mandate that cell phone companies make it easier to tap lines and locate users to the strip club owner (an unpopular and hence mercilessly oppressed group of people! I dislike strip clubs and don't go to them, but they help give the gov't "a to "free speech") who is being forced to ID all who come in and cross-reference it with a list of registered sex offenders!! (register? It's stright out of 1984! Vilify the unpopular, and the brainwashed populace applauds this fascist babysitting cuz they are too lazy to look after themselves and their own kids!! This is a nation of satiated simpletons!) Their ulterior motives are SO transparent I wonder why people don't see through it (and through politicians. like our own odious Patrick Kennedy -- though one of his doomed opponents is a guy named Picerno of the Legalize Freedom party, who has been warning in his campaign of coming "fascism and socialism" -- the first pol I've ever seen to at least come close to the real truth!).

Great stuff you're doing with ARA. Do you know of any neat similar groups in RI? Sounds dumb to ask, I know, but here folks are so apathetic that noone does anything. I don't even know of any other underground folks, political or not, from here! (besides my neighbor Mark Golde, a pal of Sean Lambert's)

>sent to Las Vegas for the families of Dan & Spit - anti-racist skinheads
>in ARA murdered by the Nazis on July 4th. I get letters & emails from

Hmm, I never heard of this! And what of poor Matt Shepard? Few things have disgusted me more than that, and the "religious" picket outside his funeral! I FUCKING HATE religion, and want to see it all destroyed, but growing up Catholic even (doesn't mean I'm considered disabled? 'hee hee') I can see that their rhetoric and their mythology don't even match up! How do people get away with

this: Are people just ignorant or are they stupid, too? I wonder about that, cuz if the average Joe IS a blithering idiot, then anarchy won't stand a chance! Perhaps the coming economic catastrophe (wake up folks-- constant need for "growth" should tell you straight out that the system is unsustainable!!!) will pose opportunity, if we can all make sure the blame is placed where it belongs... in the laps of racists/sexists/homophobes, capitalists, religions and governments! Not the people who don't know what's good for them, as Big Brother will tell ya!!

>Fuck you gov't bastard monitoring my email & tapping my phone! I'm also
>writing some new stuff. I just finished a rant tearing down our sick
>holidays. Keep playin' the truth, brother!* Your pal, Anthony

Ooo, goody! Some holiday debunking! I must read it when you publish it, sounds like a lot of fun. Soon expect some actual mail with some various stuff in it. Hope you dig. There should also be \$2 in that envelope for issue 6 of TB, which I missed. I put a link to your email on my home page

<http://www.osfn.org/~ao959>

Jeff Dealm

OK, then, take care sir, keep yelling the truth because some people really ARE listening, and can't wait to tell others! All my older issues of TB I either gave away or were "swiped"! People dig 'em! Make flyers, and send me tons of them!!

A secondhand quote that I love:

"Mankind will not be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest." --Diderot

Peace to you and good luck to you and yours!!

Welcome to Abolish. Before we can create something decent out of this world, we must first eliminate the crippling, evil ideas we've been made to endure. Once we've rescued our own minds through diligent study and life experience, we can begin to join with others in projects to resist the state. First, let's liberate ourselves from racist poison.

There are many forms of oppression and discrimination, all coming with their own despicable "ideology," which serve to justify them. These include sexism, nationalism, the oppression of the young and old by the "adult" people - you name it. Ultimately, of course, these self-ruining ideas only serve the unfettered accumulation of wealth at the expense of the worlds' people and the viability of the planet. We all know this stuff, already.

O.K. How do we empower ourselves to have a chance at creating a real future for the children?

A huge step is breaking out of the shackles from the fear of thought. Understanding and overcoming racism's offal grip on our thoughts, actions and inactions, is a huge step in the process of using our minds to think insightfully and act humanely.

When you find out that Black people are not the subhuman monsters white corporate America wants you to believe they are, you'll find many Blacks to be brilliant educators on the realities of America - vibrant, focused, understanding, knowledgeable. Don't waste this vital resource! Who do you think knew what was going on? Was it the Resistance fighters, or mindlessly indoctrinated Nazi soldiers? The oppressed always know more. They have to!

During the process of unraveling these decades and centuries of racist lies, a unique sense of liberating joy will wash over you, as you begin to feel like a thought-guided human being. Quite often, "white" people won't have felt this natural and genuine since early childhood.

Once you vomit up this "white" race sewage, all aspects of your life begin to noticeably improve. Clearheadedness begins to take hold, confidence increases and those around you notice a more aware, interesting and involved person. Of course, like overcoming any harmful addiction, it can be painful, confusing, scary. However, you owe it to yourself (and society) to become fully human. Abolish "whiteness!" Throw your hatred down!

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Finally, some sanity! There must be a better way to look at life and some kinda way to connect with decent human beings who are sick of the white lie and who yearn for a real future and are willing to struggle for it.

It's liberating. It's exhilarating. It's highly educational. Once you've committed yourself to exorcising your "whiteness," you'll see almost immediate improvement in the quality of your life. Sounds like a fad diet, doesn't it!

When you begin to talk to black people undefensively and openly, honestly and sincerely, a treasure trove of human value torrents your way. You will learn to talk and listen, laugh and dialogue, legitimately. Even talking to whites will no longer seem the boring, rotish routine. The more you practice your unbridled speaking voice, the more adept you will become at intelligent, thought-provoking insightfulness.

I once learned that the difference between the darkest black African and the most translucent albino is 1/25 of an ounce of skin pigment, called melaninite.(sp?) Sometimes you see a black person with a deficiency of this pigment and he or she is partially "white," usually on the hands and face. This skin pigment is just one of many historical adaptations homo sapiens have made to cope with life on this Earth. This pigment protects the skin from the sun's harmful rays. So what I'm saying is, "whites" are no less human because they lack this useful adaptive feature. They are more subject to the harmful effects of the sun, that's all. Accepting "whiteness" and playing by the rules of racism, does however, make them less human - not physically, but every other way. Spiritually, intellectually, psychologically, emotionally - they've become stultified in all these areas, whether they are conscious of it or not.

Shedding your "whiteness" is like a snake shedding a diseased skin or a smoker giving up cigarettes. You can restore your life and become a complete human being, still!

Che Guevara was a brilliant example of a human being. Not only was he a selfless internationalist leader with gun in hand fighting U.S. imperialism, but he also wielded a mighty pen. His essays on the "New Man," were truly revolutionary and something to aspire to. You can't be expected to make such a giant step up in class, quickly. So ease into becoming fully human. Resolve to disavow your "whiteness." Take Van Morrison's example of "A New Kind of Man." Be loving, thoughtful, gentle, giving. Reacquire your inborn humanity. Work on your conversation. Do nice things for other people which can only provide good practice at becoming a better person. People will love you for it. Could there be any better reward? How about loving yourself, having daily confidence, a delicious sense of anticipation, assimilating new vibrant ideas every day and pleasantly interacting with others, all the time! Sound inviting?

The Christians tell you to commit to Jesus Christ and somehow you'll become happy and when you're dead, something good will happen for you, but they're sketchy on the details. Insanely, you're also asked to believe in political cretinism!



How are you supposed to grow as a human being if you're still infested by racism??? All the holy rollers want is your money and to use you in their anti-human fascist crusade. They could give a damn for your soul! (as if they had any kind of handle on a dead persons' "future.") It's fantasy of the basest nature. Historically, religions have worked hand-in-glove with the rulers oppressing and confusing the people they so piously claim to be "delivering."

Cleanse your soul by making the effort to be the best human being you can possibly be, while you exist as a living, breathing person, here on Earth! Do something essential for yourself. Become a real man. As Neil Young says, "Throw Your Hatred Down!"

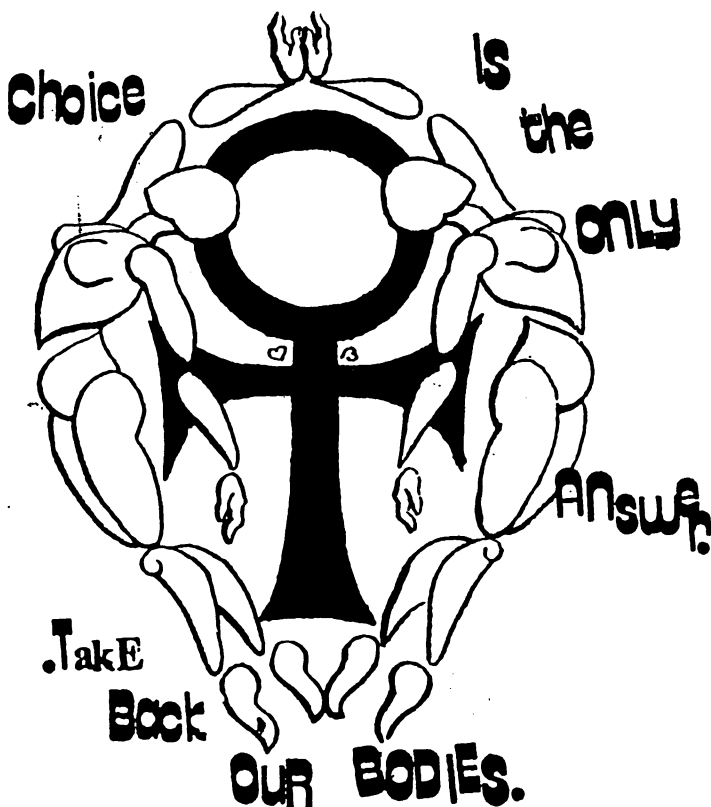


hey anthony, this is what i could read of carlie's story, so i decided i better type it and email it to you asap. if i find out any corrections, i'll let you know, but i think that this is right. here you go:

Carlie's poem/story

As I flip on the TV, I hear a newscaster telling a story so stupid,
So selfish,
That I was disgusted.
"Last Sunday at an "African American" church, a fire was let out and the church's people were engulfed by the smoke and fire. Police say the only thing left standing was a cross in the front lightly burned."
Why is it that me, a fourteen-year-old girl,
can understand racism and approach it better than most adults?
For example, when a little girl or boy play with one another
Do they care the tone of their playmates skin?
No.
They just want to love and they look on the inside.
Yet they are called the adolescents of today.
If you ask me they're more matter on the matter then most "adults" today.
Why can't we take attention to this stupid act called racism
And kill it forever.
We fought the Civil War,
We had the battles of the 60's,
And we lost one of the most educated men in the country in the 60's.
We lost Martin Luther King Jr.
All because he spoke his mind and his heart on racism.
He told of his dream.
And yet we are still living the nightmare.
We lost too many people in world because of racism.
Let's not lose anymore.

By: Carlie Fierce



ORGANIZE AGAINST RACISM AND POLICE REPRESSION
ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS AND YOUTH

*Rdwood138@
aol.com*

Now is the time to organize and march. We need to organize in our schools against racism, youth on youth violence and police repression. All students are invited to join our contingent in the October 22nd March Against Police Brutality. Our group is named Anti-Racist Action. We want the march on October 22 to be a big event for youth and working people.

Youth- black, white, Latino and Asian need to unite for this common cause. APA is dedicated to stopping racism and the police atmosphere in our schools today. We are in the best position to deal with youth on youth violence and other difficult problems in the classroom. Self organization is what we need because Gestapo police aren't the answer.

By organizing with APA we can work toward a better future for ourselves. The event on October 22nd is a positive way to let our thoughts be heard and make a difference in the local school system.

Too often we are misled and lied too, and we have no answers for the huge social crisis facing youth in school and as we enter our first job. We are inheriting the problems others have given us. Police repression is not the answer and the whole school atmosphere suffers. We will gain our freedom by organizing. We have strength with our numbers. We can make ourselves heard by joining the protest October 22nd.

"STOP POLICE BRUTALITY, REPRESSION, and the CRIMINALIZATION of a GENERATION" Over 100 groups are participating in this mass protest. We will begin in Daley Plaza (Clark and Washington) at 3:30. Call 773-794-8114

CONTACTS FOR ANARCHISTS, ANTI-AUTHORITARIANS, AND REVOLUTIONARIES

1991

Free Radio Berkeley
1442 A. Walnut St. #406
Berkeley, CA 94709

Homes Not Jails
558 Capp St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

Industrial Workers of the World
103 W. Michigan Ave.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

October 22 Coalition to Stop Police Brutality
c/o KHL INC., Box 124
160 First Ave.
New York, NY 10009

National Commission for Democracy in Mexico
2001 Montana, suite B
El Paso, TX 79903

Network of Anarchist Collectives
c/o A-Zone
1573 N. Milwaukee #42
Chicago, IL 60622

North American Animal Liberation Front
Supporters Group
Box 69597
Willowdale, Ont. M2M 4K3 CANADA

Prison Activist Resource Center
PO Box 339
Berkeley, CA 94701
parcer@igc.org

Raze the Walls
PO Box 2351 College Station Rd
Box 253
Athens, GA 30605

Red and Anarchist Skinheads (RASII)
PO Box 365
Canal St. Station
New York, NY 10013

Workers' Solidarity Movement-IWA/IT
339 Lafayette St. Rm. 202
New York, NY 10012

War Resisters League
339 Lafayette St.
New York, NY 10012

Anarchist-Communist Federation
84 B White Chapel, High St.
London E1 70X UK

Anarchist Liberty Union
PO Box 1209
Kennebunkport, ME 04046

Anarcho-Punk Federation
c/o Crasshole Collective
PO Box 73
Odenton, MD 21113

Anti-Authoritarian Network of Community
Organizations
c/o Georgia Anti-Authoritarian Group
PO Box 144
Hiram, GA 30141

Anti-Fascist Forum
PO Box 6326, Station A
Toronto, Ontario
-M5W 1P7 CANADA

Anti-Racist Action Network
c/o Columbus ARA
PO Box 82097
Columbus, OH 43202

Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights
750 La Playa #730
San Francisco, CA 94121

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Seattle, WA 98101

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Seattle, WA 98102

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San Francisco, CA 94118

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P.O. Box 1055
Culver City, CA 90232-1055

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Minneapolis, MN 55408

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